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VOL. XIII. PITTSBURGH, WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 15, 1875. NO. 84.

FIRST EDITION.

XLIV. CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 14, 1875.

SENATE.

Mr. EDMUNDS, from the Judiciary Committee, reported the Senate bill to extend the duration of the Court of Commissioners of the Alabama Claims, with several verbal amendments. He said it was desirable to have this bill passed by both Houses of Congress before the holiday recess. It merely provided for continuing the court six months, and did not touch disputed questions connected with that court. The bill was passed.

The CHAIR laid before the Senate the motion submitted by the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. West), last week, to grant the request of W. L. McMillan to withdraw his papers claiming a seat in the Senate as Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. SAULSBURY said he had no particular objection to the withdrawal of these papers, but it seemed to him a rather strange proceeding, and he would like to know something of the reasons therefor.

Mr. EDMUNDS inquired whether the credentials of Mr. McMillan came to the Senate from the Governor of Louisiana, according to law, or whether they had been submitted by Mr. McMillan himself.

The CHAIR (Mr. Ferry) replied that the credentials were presented by the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. McCreery).

Mr. EDMUNDS said he had no objection to their withdrawal.

Mr. THURMAN said it was a matter of no consequence whether these credentials be withdrawn or not; undoubtedly their withdrawal would put an end to the claim of McMillan for a seat in this body, but that would have no effect whatever on the claim of Pinchback for a seat. The committee of the Senate had reported that the action of the body which elected Pinchback nor that which elected McEnery was the legal Legislature of the State.

Mr DAVIS inquired if there were not two sets of credentials of McMillan.

The CHAIR replied that there were two sets—those presented by the Senator from Kentucky and others sent directly to the Senate.

Mr. MORTON said there never was any such body as the McEnery Legislature. This whole McEnery government was a sham and a fraud.

Mr. STEVENSON, of Kentucky, said that in a personal aspect this matter amounted to very little, but when credentials, properly authenticated by the Governor of a State, were laid upon the table it became more than a personal matter and the claimant had no right to withdraw them. He took issue with the Senator from Indiana (Morton) as to the McEnery government being a fraud. He believed it was the true government of Louisiana, and the Kellogg government a fraud, a bribery and a conception. The Committee on Privileges and Elections had reported to the Senate that the Kellogg government was a fraud, and the record would show it. He argued that the Senate was estopped by the report of the committee from recognizing the Kellogg government.

Mr. HOWE denied that the Senate was estopped by the report of the committee. He would not consider himself estopped by the report of any committee.

Mr. WHITE said it occurred to him that the credentials of any person, after once being placed in the custody of the Senate, could not be withdrawn. They came to the Senate from a sovereign State, and it was the right of a State to lay before the Senate of the United States a certificate that she had exercised her sovereign power by electing a Senator of the United States. Without reference to the question whether McEnery or Kellogg was elected Governor of Louisana, he argued that McMillan had no right to come here and ask to withdraw his papers. He moved that the motion to grant the request to withdraw be referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections. Rejected without division.

Mr. BAYARD inquired in whose custody these credentials were to be delivered, in case the Senate acceded to the request. They came from the State of Louisana and could not be delivered to McMillan. He read from the *Record* to show that McMillan's credentials were also presented by Mr. West and referred to the Committe on Privileges and Elections.

Mr. HOWE said he did not desire to raise an issue with any Senator, on the other side, as to the custody or value of these precious papers. Undoubtedly they came before the Senate in such a shape as to place them on the Journal and make them part of the record. He argued that it had always been the practice of the Senate to allow papers in regard to claims to be withdrawn. No injustice would be done by allowing the claim to be withdrawn, and he was in favor of it.

Mr. BAYARD said he believed in his soul that McEnery was the legal Governor of Louisiana and had been kept from his place by usurpation and Federal power. [Slight applause in the gallery, but promptly checked.]

The question being on the motion of Mr. West to grant the request to withdraw the credentials, it was agreed to—yeas 36, nays 28.

After an executive session the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

The SPEAKER called the States for bills and resolutions, under which call bills, etc., were introduced and referred as follows:

By Mr. BLAINE—Proposing an amendment to the Constitution, providing that no State shall make any law respecting the establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, and that no money raised by taxation in any State for the support of public schools, or derived from any public fund therefor, or any public lands devoted thereto, shall ever be under the control of any religious sect; nor any such money or lands so devoted there to shall ever be under the control of any religious sect; and that no money or lands so devoted shall be divided among religious sects or denominations.

By Mr. DAVIS, of North Carolina—To repeal the law forbidding the payment of accounts, claims and demands on Southern citizens for quartermaster's stores, and appropriating $900,000 to pay for the same.

By Mr. LANDERS—Relative to the repeal of the Resumption act of the 14th of January, 1875.

Mr. FOOTE offered the following resolution and demanded the previous question on its adoption:

Resolved, &c., That in all subordinate appointments under any of the officers of the House, it is the judgment of the House that wounded Union soldiers who are not disabled from the performance of duty should be preferred.

A standing vote on seconding the previous question showed ninety-seven Republicans voting in its favor, and 79 Democrats against it. The vote was then taken up by tellers, with the following result: Ayes 99, nays 135. So the previous question was not seconded.

Mr. COX then offered the following as an amendment to the resolution, as to the reference of both resolutions to the Committee on Accounts and demanded the previous question:

Resolved, That inasmuch as the Union of States has been restored, all citizens thereof are entitled to consideration in the appointments to office under this Government.

Mr. HALE, of Maine, inquired whether Mr. Cox's resolution was offered as a substitute of Mr. Foote's.

The SPEAKER replied that he understood it to be offered as an amendment.

Mr. STARKWEATHER made the objection that as New York had already been called, the gentleman (Cox) could not put in a resolution now.

The SPEAKER ruled it was too late to make objection.

Mr. STARKWEATHER said he had tried to make the objection as soon as the resolution was offered.

Mr. HALE inquired whether the House had acted on the amendment.

The SPEAKER—It had not; that would be acting on the subject matter of the resolution, which is not the purpose of the gentleman from New York. His purpose is to refer both resolutions to the committee.

Mr. COX—The original resolution was an *ad captandum* affair. My resolution is in the nature of amnesty. [Laughter.]

Mr. REAGAN made the point of order that neither the argument, the resolutions nor amendment was in order. Neither of them proposed anything which the House was authorized or required by law to do.

The SPEAKER overruled the point of order, stating that if it was ever tenable it came too late.

The vote was taken by ayes and noes, and resulted: Yeas 168, nays 102, a strict party vote. So both resolutions were referred to the Committee on Accounts.

The call of States was resumed, and bills were introduced and referred as follows:

By Mr. HARRISON—To amend the Constitution by fixing one term for the President and making him ineligible for [illegible] and by making him Senator for life from the United States at large, at the expiration of his office as President.

By Mr. MORRISON—To amend the Constitution by fixing the President's salary at six years and making the President ineligible to any term of twelve years.

By Mr. RANDALL—Proposing an amendment to the Constitution providing that after the next Presidential election the President of the United States shall hold his office for six years, and that neither the President nor Vice President (when the duties of President devolves upon him) shall be eligible to re-election.

By Mr. PILGER—A resolution directing the Committee on Military Affairs to inquire into the expediency of reducing the regular army to ten thousand men, or to such a number as will insure efficient public service at an expense not exceeding twenty millions yearly. Adopted.

By Mr. BAKER—Against subsidies and grant of lands to railroads.

By Mr. CASON—To amend the law respecting third cross-mailable matter.

By Mr. HEMPHILL—To repeal the act for the resumption of specie payment.

By Mr. EAMES—To reduce postage, by providing that after the 1st of March, 1876, postage shall be charged on domestic mailable matter of the first class, embracing all matter or correspondence wholly or in part in writing, except book manuscripts and correspondence between authors and publishers, and including home or drop letters, at a uniform rate of one cent for each half ounce or fraction thereof.

By Mr. WELLS—To establish a mint in St Louis for the coinage of gold and silver.

By Mr. SPARKS—Authorizing the payment of import duties in legal tender notes.

By Mr. CHITTENDEN—To fund United States legal tender notes and to prepare the way for the resumption of specie payments as soon as practicable; directing the Secretary of the Treasury to sell for legal tender notes, which are to be immediately cancelled and destroyed, three millions in four and a half per cent. twenty-year bonds, on the first Tuesday of every month.

By Mr. ELY—Directing the Secretary of War to transmit copies of the orders and instructions under which Quartermaster General Meigs is acting for the Government during his absence from the United States.

By Mr. DARRELL—To amend the act of March, 1871, incorporating the Texas Pacific Railroad Company.

By Mr. MORET—To remove political disabilities from all citizens of the United States and to prescribe an oath of office.

Mr. BUCKNER offered the following resolution, and asked that it be read on its passage:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to transmit to the House all correspondence or reports in the office of ex-Senator John B. Henderson as one of the special counsel of the United States in the prosecution of certain frauds cases before the United States Court at St. Louis.

Mr. LAWRENCE suggested that the words "if not incompatible with the public interest," be inserted in the resolution.

Voices on the Democratic side—No! No!

Mr. BUCKNER declined so to modify the resolution.

Mr. KASSON made the point of order that under rule a resolution calling for executive information, when objected to, must lie over a day.

The SPEAKER sustained the point of order, and the resolution went over.

Mr. CANNON introduced a bill to enable the people of Utah to form for admission into the State government, and to admit Utah into the Union as a State.

By Mr. HARRIS, of Virginia—To aid the Washington, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railroad Company to construct a narrow gauge railroad from tide water to St. Louis and Chicago.

Mr. RANDALL offered a resolution directing the secretary of the Treasury to transmit copies of all letters, telegrams, instructions and instructions relating to the organization and prosecution of the present movement against the whisky ring at St. Louis, Chicago and Milwaukee.

Mr. KASSON objected to the present consideration of the resolution, and asked that, under the rule, it lie over for one day. He wished to see that it was carefully worded.

Mr. RANDALL asked him whether he objected to the resolution.

Mr. KASSON replied that he made no objection to anything that was consistent with the successful prosecution of the pending proceedings.

Mr. RANDALL said that the object of the resolution was to have the House fully informed of what was being done in the matter by the Government.

Mr. HOAR intimated that the effect would be to expose to the whisky ring the purposes of the Government.

Mr. RANDALL replied that the resolution contemplated no such purpose. The resolution then went over until to-morrow.

The Senate bill extending the duration of the Alabama Commision was taken up and passed.

Adjourned till to-morrow.

THE BREMERHAVEN EXPLOSION.

List of Mosel Passengers Killed, Wounded and Missing—The Reported Intention to Destroy the Steamer Reasserted.

BREMEN, December 14.—The *Weser Zeitung* this morning asserts that the passenger Thomas confessed to the intention of destroying the steamship Mosel for the sake of the insurances he held, and implicated others in the plot. The report requires confirmation, which cannot be obtained before the end of the judicial investigation now going on.

NEW YORK, December 14.—Oelrichs & Co., agents of the North German Lloyd's, received a cablegram this morning giving the names of the passengers of the steamer Mosel, killed and injured by the dynamite explosion at Bremerhaven, on Saturday, as follows:

Second cabin—Killed, Hermann Cramer, Alfred Granichstadler; slightly wounded, Bertha Lehr; missing, perhaps lost, Geo. Metzger.

Steerage—Killed, Henrich Koutz, Otto Kumcke; wounded, Ernstine Kruger and child, Rudolph Witte, Hermann Happ, Carl Mosel, Edward Becker, Adalbert Senk, Josef Danzer, Wilhelm Schundt; missing, C. Lane, J. Grimm, Jos. Wiesne, Johann Roth, Frederick Suemann.

BREMEN, December 14.—The man Thomas, who is supposed to have owned the case of dynamite which exploded at Bremerhaven, is an American. He has been residing for some months at Strahlen, Saxony.

DRESDEN, December 14.—The police made a domiciliary visit to the abode of Thomas, in Strahlen, but failed to discover anything throwing light upon the terrible crime in which the man is implicated. His wife has gone to Bremerhaven.

POLITICAL.

Massachusetts.

BOSTON CITY ELECTION.

BOSTON, December 14.—Mayor Cobb is re-elected by about 2,500 plurality. The Citizens' ticket is doubtless successful in the main over the coalition Democratic and Republican ticket.

TELEGRAPHIC PERSONALS.

Colonel Broadhead's commission and a retainer of $1,090 have been forwarded to him at St. Louis.

J. S. Van Valkenburg, editor of the Sidney, Ohio, *Democrat*, formerly of the Fremont *Messenger*, died at his residence in Sidney, on Monday.

The French Geographical Society has elected General Andrew A. Humphreys, Chief of the Corps of Engineers of the United States Army, a corresponding member.

Charles B. Pettingill has been confirmed Collector of Internal Revenue for the Eighteenth Ohio district, and Charles M. Lynch for the Nineteenth Pennsylvania district.

Professor Wells, who made the speech before Bishop Haven, at the now famous Baston preacher's meeting, and to whom was attributed the language that Grant was the savior of his country, and that the people could not dispense with his services, writes a card to deny that he ever said anything of the kind.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Probabilities for To-Day.—For Tennessee, the Ohio Valley and the Upper Lakes, falling barometer, increasing south and east winds, warmer weather and possibly snow.

The steamer England, from Liverpool, has arrived at New York.

The National Cheap Transportation Convention meets to-day at Chicago.

The Texas Democratic State Convention meets at Galveston January 5, and the Republican at Houston January 12.

The Indianapolis Brass and Supply Company made an assignment yesterday for the benefit of their creditors. Liabilities $80,000; assets $120,000.

The amount of rain, or rain and melted snow for the past week averages about as follows in the various districts: St. Lawrence Valley, 0.40 inch; New England, 0.29; Middle Atlantic States, 1.50; South Atlantic States, 1.20; Eastern Gulf States, 1.08; Western Gulf States, 1.00; Lower Lake region, 0.75; Upper Lake region, 0.75; Ohio Valley and Tennessee, 1.10; Upper Mississippi Valley, 1.06; Missouri Valley, 0.10; Minnesota, 0.32.

THE STATE GRANGE.

Arrival of Delegates at Lancaster—Growth of the Order in Pennsylvania.

LANCASTER, December 13.—The indications are that more representative Grangers will be in this city by to-morrow than ever before assembled in Pennsylvania. A large number have arrived already from various parts of the State, including a large proportion of matrons. Among those who arrived early this morning are Hon. Victor E. Piollet, State Lecturer; State Agent Gladding, of Philadelphia, and R. H. Thomas, Esq., State Secretary and editor of the *Farmers' Friend*, the organ of the Order in this State, published at Mechanicsburg. Our hotels and boarding houses have reduced the charges for this occasion and all will be crowded. It is suggested, but yet undecided, to get up a special excursion for the representatives to the Centennial buildings, and also to enable them to attend one of Moody and Sankey's meetings on Friday next, and return in time to attend a lecture to be delivered on the same evening by Miss Garretson, of Iowa, before the State Grange. The only business transacted to-day was by the Executive and Finance Committees. The total number present by to-morrow, when the State Grange will commence its business, it is expected will be over twelve hundred. The Secretary has issued orders for excursion tickets on railroads to over seventeen thousand applicants. The Granges are located as follows: Bradford, 66; Crawford, 28; Indiana, 26; Chester, 24; Greene, 22; Mercer, 22; Armstrong, 21; Berks, 20; Erie, 20; Columbia, 18; Susquehanna, 18; Venango, 18; Center, 17; Butler, 16; Tioga, 16; Cumberland, 14; Lawrence, 13; Montgomery, 13; Wyoming, 13; Bedford, 12; Huntingdon, 12; Lycoming 12; Washington, 12; York, 11; Bucks, 9; Lawrence, 9; Lebanon, 9; Dauphin, 8; Chester, 24; Lancaster, 8; Westmoreland, 8; Monroe, 7; Northampton, 7; Northumberland, 7; Clearfield, 6; Clinton, 6; Franklin, 6; Mifflin, 6; Perry, 6; Schuylkill, 6; Warren, 6; Clarion, 5; Fayette, 5; Montour, 5; Snyder, 5; Beaver, 4; Fulton, 4; Sullivan, 4; Wayne, 4; Delaware, 3; Lehigh, 3; Blair, 2; Forest, 2; Pike, 2; Adams, 1, and Somerset, 1. It is somewhat remarkable that this formidable organization appears to shun the large cities and towns, and is strongest in counties like Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Allegheny city, Erie, Lancaster, Reading, Scranton, Easton, Allentown, Wilkesbarre, Pottsville, Norristown, Altoona or West Chester. The only towns of considerable size in which the order exists are York, Harrisburg, Bethlehem, Carlisle, Lebanon, Doylestown, Meadville and several others of that class. The small villages and cross roads seem to be the favorite localities to organize and hold the grange meetings.—*Philadelphia Times.*

Who Use the Steinway Pianos?

The following families use the Steinway Concert Grand Pianos:

Mrs. Harmer Denny, a Steinway Concert Grand.

Mrs. Mary Singer, a Steinway Concert Grand.

William Carr, Esq., a Steinway Concert Grand.

Thompson Bell, Esq., a Steinway Concert Grand.

Dr. G. W. Spencer, a Steinway Concert Grand.

W. Smith, Esq., a Steinway Concert Grand.

J. H. Lindsay, Esq., a Steinway Concert Grand.

Charles J. Clark, Esq., a Steinway Concert Grand.

Robert Woods, Esq., a Steinway Concert Grand.

Professor I. Manus, a Steinway Concert Grand.

The purchasers of the Steinway *Upright* Pianos run up in the thousands, and if published would cover a whole page. Of our pages. The sole agents, H. Kleber & Bro., however, have promised to furnish us some of the most prominent names, and which we will make public next week, so that our readers may learn which class of our community prefer the Steinway manufacture.

Rising Sun Flour.

Bread made from this Flour is never wasted.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

Negotiations with Spain---The Point of Difference---A Chance for War.

Randall Powerless in the Matter of Patronage.

Fears that Kerr is Physically Unequal to the Speakership.

Connection of Ex-Commissioner Douglass with Whisky Trials.

The Bill for Aid to the Centennial.

Excursion to Philadelphia on Friday.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 14, 1875.

Unfavorable Condition of Spanish Negotiations.

The attitude of the Government on the Spanish question, it is learned from authoritative sources, resolves itself into one of peace, if Spain accepts our friendly efforts, or war, if an adjustment of some kind is not reached without further delay. The idea of a West Indian confederation, in the form of a protectorate under Spanish rule, would be unsatisfactory, and annexation to the United States is not considered sound policy. The tone of recent dispatches does not indicate a peaceable solution of this dilicate diplomatic controversy.

No Union Men for Office in the House.

Mr. Randall is considerably exercised over the fact that he can get no patronage in the House. The Southern Democrats have the whip hand and they propose to use the lash liberally upon their subservient Northern allies. To-day a resolution was introduced to retain a few of the doorkeepers who were injured in the late war. The Democracy, who hate the Union, voted the proposition down by a majority of upward of fifty. One of these crippled is without arms, another without feet. We may shortly expect to see rebel soldiers in their places.

Randall in the Chair.

To-day Randall was called to the chair for the first time since the recent contest for the Speakership. His presence created quite a sensation on the floor. Mr. Kerr, at the close of the session, was completely exhausted. His friends fear that he will not be able to perform the duties, in consequence of impaired health.

Henderson's Attack on Douglass.

Ex-Commissioner Douglass states that the attacks made upon him by Henderson were unjust; that he recommended the order transferring the Supervisors of Internal Revenue, and that Secretary Bristow issued it and subsequently revoked it, in spite of his urgent protests. Had Mr. Douglass not been interfered with, he says the whisky exposures would have been made weeks before.

The Centennial Bill.

The Centennial managers have prepared a bill to be submitted as soon as the select committee authorized by the House is appointed. The preamble recites the divers acts of Congress relating to the Centennial, the invitation of the President of the United States to foreign countries, the acceptance of thirty-eight of them, and says proper preparations are now necessary as a measure of honor and good faith that the preparations are in accordance with the laws and on a scale commensurate with the occasion; and therefore asks one million five hundred thousand dollars, or as much thereof as necessary, to be paid in drafts of the Centennial Board of Finance on the Treasury of the United States, one third immediately after the passage of the act and the balance in four equal monthly payments. An effort will be made to have the select committee announced to-morrow, in which event the bill will be introduced at once and referred.

The Philadelphia Excursion.

The Centennial managers have thus far received one hundred and seventy-five acceptances of their invitations to Senators and Representatives. The President and all the members of the Cabinet, except Secretary Fish, have expressed their intention to be present. Secretary Fish has always opposed the enterprise. Probably his Vienna experience was enough for him in that line. George Bancroft, the historian, ex-Governor Brown, of Tennessee, and ex-Senator Foote will also be present.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 14, 1875.

CASE BETWEEN OUR GOVERNMENT AND SPAIN.

The present distinctive point at issue between the United States and Spain is stated in non-official, but usually well-informed circles as follows:

The United States ask, first, that in future all American citizens in Cuba accused of violation of law shall be tried by the civil courts and not by military tribunals, with all rights in such cases as are secured by the Seventh article of the Treaty of 1795; and, second, that all sentences where American citizens have heretofore been tried by military tribunals, shall be annulled. Spain in some degree concedes the claim of the United States to the first proposition, agreeing that in future American citizens accused of violations of law shall be tried by the ordinary tribunals, with the right to be heard by counsel, to summon witnesses and employ all other necessary safeguards to the accused, but with the assumption that all such trials shall be according to the law of 1821, which provides for more expeditious proceedings than those of the civil courts for common offenses in time of peace. She also offers to reverse all sentences past by courts martial on American loans, where it is satisfactorily shown that such sentences were in violation of established law. This reply is unsatisfactory to the United States, which takes the ground that American citizens accused of crime cannot be tried by court martial, but are entitled to a trial before a civil court only, as secured by treaty stipulations, without such reservation as is proposed by Spain.

THE VISIT TO THE CENTENNIAL BUILDINGS.

The Cabinet session to-day was short. Several appointments were under consideration and several of the members decided, in company with the President, to visit Philadelphia on the 17th inst. It is probable that the Secretary of the Navy, the Postmaster General and the Attorney General will represent the Cabinet on the occasion.

POSTAL CHANGES IN PENNSYLVANIA.

Post offices established—Stanton's Mills, Somerset county, Peter J. Cover, postmaster.

Postmasters appointed—John F. McCoy, Anandald, Butler county; Samuel E. Delp, Bangor, Northampton county; William Peterson, Jenningsville, Wyoming county; Theodore H. Dampman, Jacksonville, Juniata county; F. C. Potter, McCulloch's Mills, Juniata county; John C. Roxberry, Memphis, Butler county; James M. Keens, Mill Village, Erie county; Samuel W. Douglass, Mountain Grove, Luzerne county; Solomon Millison, Ohioville, Beaver county; David E. Kendig, Orrstown, Franklin county; Jacob L. Benner, Shoenersville, Lehigh county; Miss Annie M. Bloomer, Spread Eagle, Chester county; Frank Irving, Spring Brook Luzerne county; Mary Ryan, Conyngham, Luzerne; Clair, Allegheny county; George Smith, Mysox, Bradford county.

REPORT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

The report of the Attorney General was sent to Congress to-day. He urges that district attorneys be paid by salaries only, to be graded according to population; that District of Columbia be no exception to the law giving appointments of Assistant District Attorney to the Attorney General; that an uniform mode of selecting jurors for the United States courts be provided for by law; that a law be passed forbidding the payment of deputy marshals by certificates or due bills, and the advance of any money to deputies for fees whose bills are unadjusted at the Treasury over six months. He refers to the case of Brigham Young, and asks further legislation. The labors of the Supreme Court and the Court of Claims are alluded to, and it is suggested that such legislation be had as will enable the latter court, aided by the attorney General, to increase the safeguards against improper testimony, by devising a different mode of taking it, and to force old cases to early trial or require them to be dismissed without power of restoration. To these ends he proposes, after consultation with the court, to adopt a bill and submit it to the present Congress.

HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEES—HOLIDAY RECESS OF CONGRESS.

It is said to be the intention of Speaker Kerr to announce the standing committees on Tuesday, the 21st inst., and that on the succeeding day the two Houses will take the usual holiday recess.

Rising Sun Flour

Is the cheapest in the end.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

England.

CORONER'S INQUEST ON DEUTSCHLAND VICTIMS.

LONDON, December 14.—The adjourned inquest on the bodies from the wreck of the Deutschland, was brought to a close today. Captain Brickenstein repeated the evidence he gave before, that he was thirty-five miles out of his course when the steamer struck. Witnesses were called to prove that the tug Liverpool did all that was possible to save life. The jury, after deliberating three hours, rendered a verdict that the victims came to their death by exposure or drowning; that the primary cause of the wreck was that the Captain, in consequence of the state of the weather, lost his reckoning, but no criminal act is attributed to him. The jury add that it is to be regretted that the Deutschland had not the best-known appliances for ascertaining the distance traversed, that her boat-lowering apparatus was not of the best and that an experienced pilot was not in charge. They conclude by declaring that great credit is due to the Captain and crew of the tug Liverpool.

Turkey.

PLENTY OF ADVICE ON REFORM.

CONSTANTINOPLE, December 14.—The Austrian Ambassador asked the Grand Vizier on Saturday to suspend hostilities and open negotiations in the insurgent district. Some of the Ministers are urging the Sultan to reject the programme of reform emanating from the Northern Powers, and in justification of such rejection to refer them to the plan of reform which the Porte itself intends to promulgate to-morrow.

Marine News.

QUEENSTOWN, December 14.—Steamship Spain, from New York, arrived.

PLYMOUTH, December 14.—Steamship Herder, from New York, arrived.

FIRE RECORD.

Bridgeport, Conn.—$500,000.

BRIDGEPORT, December 14.—The cabinet shops of the Wheeler and Wilson Sewing Machine Company were destroyed by fire to-night. The Fire Department was nearly powerless on account of the insufficient supply of water. Loss $500,000; insurance $300,000.

Avon, N. Y.—$40,000.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., December 14.—The Potter House, with adjoining outbuildings, at Avon, was burned last night. Loss $40,000.

EDUCATIONAL.

Meeting of the Central Board—Monthly Reports—No Division of the Colfax District.

A regular meeting of the Central Board of Education was held yesterday afternoon. Members present, Messrs. Arthurs, Aughenbaugh, Bell, Brush, Case, Craig, Evans, Fennerty, French, Gutman, Kehew, Lewis, McEwen, McKelvey, Pitcairn, Rankin, Schneider, Shaw, Spratt, Turney, Wilson, and President Robbins.

A communication from the Twenty-second ward, Colfax district, School Board, asking a reconsideration of the vote taken the previous meeting relative to the division of the ward into two school districts, was read and accepted.

On motion of Mr. Arthurs it was decided to reconsider.

Mr. Edward Taylor, President of the Colfax Board, was heard in favor of the division, and considerable discussion followed.

Finally, the ayes and nays being called on the adoption of the report of the committee in favor of the division, the motion to adopt was lost by a vote of 10 to 13.

The next meeting will be held on NOVEMBER.

The report of City Superintendent Luckey for the month of November was read and accepted. There were 414 teachers employed during the month, and the enrolled attendance of pupils was, males, 8,750; females, 8,889; total, 17,639. The average attendance was, males, 7,503; females, 7,450; total, 14,953. There were 380 corporal punishments. Number of non-resident pupils 224. Of this number 38 attended the High School, 29 are in the North district, 27 in the Washington, and the remainder are scattered among a number of districts.

Mr. Luckey reported the annual report of the Board to be ready, and the Printing Committee was instructed to have 1,500 printed.

Prof. Jillson reported the average attendance at the High School during November as follows: Accademical department 471, normal 91, commercial department 471. The report recommends that applicants for admission holding numbers 383, 384, 385, 386 and 387 be admitted. Acknowledgment of contributions to the museum is made.

Attention is called to the attendance of pupils from Wilkinsburg, late Thirty-seventh ward.

The report was accepted and thanks were tendered for the donations, and the candidates admitted. It was ordered that Wilkinsburg pupils be required to pay for tuition.

The Secretary reported warrants drawn since last meeting to amount of $27,258 82 for salaries and for bills to the amount of $1,3 32.

Mr. Rankin, from the Finance Committee, presented the following statement:

Balance November 9th	$161,069 42
Receipts in bills	6,053 29
Receipts taxes 1875	7,425 00
	$174,538 62
Warrants drawn	30,945 48
Balance	$143,595 14
Interest due November 1st	$2,146 70
Interest for November	690 16
	$2,838 86

The report was accepted.

Reports of other committees covered only a few bills.

On motion vacation was ordered from Thursday evening, December 23d, to Monday, January 3d.

The report of the High School Visiting Committee was read and accepted.

The President appointed Messrs. Kimmell, Lazear, Wilson, Mason and Miller as the Visiting Committee for the current month.

Mr. Shaw moved that hereafter the meetings of the Board be held in the evenings instead of the afternoon. Laid over until next meeting.

One additional teacher was asked for the Hemlock district and referred to the committee.

Adjourned.

THE SCHOOLS OF ALLEGHENY.

Meeting of the Board of Control—The Educational Periodical Business, &c.

The Board of Control of Allegheny held an adjourned meeting last evening. Mr. D. L. Smith presided.

Mr. Marthens, from the Special Instruction Committee, reported adversely to the establishment of a training school for teachers and recommend that the Principals of each school instruct their teachers under them. The report was adopted.

Mr. Marthens also presented the report of the number of teachers taking an educational periodical and *vice versa*. He stated that the committee had not received fair treatment from the daily press in their strictures on the report. The report was received and filed.

A number of bills were presented and ordered to be paid. The principal was that of the Controller, rendered for $300, sent to the city for the City Superintendent's office.

Mr. Miller offered a resolution that the names of all teachers who failed to attend the Saturday morning session of the Quarterly Institute, should be reported by the Secretary of the Institute to the Board of Control.

On motion of Mr. McCance the resolution was amended so that the names of delinquents should be reported to the local boards, and was adopted.

Judge Parke called attention to the fact that a man named Knox had been holding possession of a stable belonging to the schools, for many months, refusing to pay rent for the same.

On motion, it was decided to take measures to eject Mr. Knox.

Mr. Hay called attention to the absurdity of the Board meeting charged for room, office rent and janitor's fees by the city, when the citizens footed all bills. The Board being a recognized feature of the city government as much as the City Superintendent, he looked upon the charges as a superfluous piece of red tape. Not only so but in the now straitened condition of the finances it increased the division of their funds might prove disastrous.

The Board agreed with Mr. H., but decided that as a compromise had been made to this effect it must be performed for the present if Councils saw fit to enforce it. Upon Mr. Hay's suggestion the Finance Committee of the Board were instructed to see if Councils would not allow them the use of the city building free of charge in future.

Superintendent Davis' report showed the total enrollment to be 9,373; average attendance 8,168; per cent. of attendance 87.

Adjourned.

THE third lecture of the High School scientific course will be delivered to-morrow evening.

Moncure D. Conway is going about the country trying to prove that there is no Devil. It would be interesting to learn how, then, he accounts for the existence of the Democratic party.

A REDUCTION!

OF

50 PER CENT.

FOR

TWO WEEKS ONLY!

Men's Overcoats,	$5,	worth $ 7 50
Men's Overcoats,	$9,	worth 13 50
Men's Overcoats,	$15,	worth 22 50
Boys' Overcoats,	$3,	worth 5 00
Boys' Overcoats,	$5,	worth 7 50
Foys' Overcoats,	$8,	worth 12 00
Men's Suits,	$7,	worth 10 00
Men's Suits,	$10,	worth 15 00
Men's Suits,	$16,	worth 24 00
Boys' Suits,	$2,	worth 3 00
Boys' Suits,	$3 50,	worth 5 00
Boys' Suits,	$5,	worth 7 50
Boys' Suits,	$7,	worth 10 00
Single Pants,	$2,	worth 3 00
Heavy Chinchilla Coats,	$4,	worth 6 00
Double breasted Coats,	$6,	worth 10 00
Heavy Winter Coats for Men,	$3,	worth 5 00

Jeans Pants, 95c; Knit Jackets, 75c; Woolen Socks, 20c.

STRASSBURGER & JOSEPH,

161 FEDERAL STREET,

ALLEGHENY.

TRADESMEN'S INSTITUTE.

Annual Meeting Yesterday—Election of a Board of Directors—A Lively Session—Johnson vs. Vannote.

The first annual meeting of the Pittsburgh Tradesmen's Industrial Institute was held yesterday in the Germania Bank building. At eleven o'clock Rev. J. Vannote called the meeting to order, and nominated Mr. Wm. B. Hunter for chairman. That gentleman declining, Mr. Thomas N. Miller was elected. Mr. Vannote was elected Secretary. The main object of the meeting was the election of a Board of Directors for the ensuing year. There were two tickets in the field, the first of which was known as the "Vannote" and the other as the "Johnston ticket." After the reading of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held Monday, Mr. W. G. Johnston said he desired to read a report of the Board of Directors, one made outside the regular Executive Committee. Mr. Vannote objected on the ground that this report had not been properly presented to the Board. But Mr. Johnston read his report, and also the annual report of the Board, alluded to yesterday. He further alluded to an attempt made at the meeting on Monday to elect seventy new life-members, which he thought was simply an election-eering dodge, and demanded to know if this would be tolerated.

Then Mr. Vannote asked that his side be heard, claiming that the seventy had not been elected after the adjournment, and that five members of the Board had "bolted," not adjourned.

Mr. Gilleland, of the Board, made a reply to this, and then the discussion became general, and in many instances personal.

During the discussion which ensued on the floor, Mr. Vannote stated that some ten days ago persons had been canvassing the city for annual members, the initiation fee being five dollars, for the purpose of carrying the election.

MR. JOHNSTON MAKES A STATEMENT.

Mr. W. G. Johnson said this was a statement of which the Board should take cognizance. It was apparent that 100 members, paying $500, could control the election and defeat the ninety "life" members who had paid $0,000. He suggested an amendment to the by-laws to increase the membership fee to fifty dollars. He stated that this proposition met the approval of the entire Board, and was adopted. Mr. Johnson proceeded to state that the Board met last Saturday afternoon, when he called attention to the fact that the by-laws required, not only that members should pay in their dues in full, but that their names should be acted upon by the Board, and he called for a reading of the list of members. The membership book was produced, and the names read off and voted upon. The clerk was then directed to certify the list for the use of the tellers at the election on Tuesday. The Board adjourned to meet on Monday afternoon. This adjourned meeting occurred until it was quite dark, and the members evinced an anxiety to go away. Mr. Vannote stated that he wished to propose *two or three* names to be added to the list. A member of the Board objected that the names should be announced. This Mr. Vannote said he was unable to do. Mr Coleman, the Treasurer, was then appealed to, and he responded that he could not name them, as his books were in Allegheny. Mr. Mitchell then offered a resolution that the clerk be directed to place on the list the names of all who had paid their membership fees. The speaker said he had objected to this resolution, as the by-laws required that the names should be voted upon by the Board, and not left to the discretion of the clerk. Mr. Vannote still insisted that it was impossible to furnish the list. Mr. Lyon then offered a motion that the adjournment to defeat the will of the Board was plainly evident. The speaker was unwilling to second this motion when so important a matter as the election of members was pending, but he would be compelled to

The Commercial.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1875.

PHILADELPHIA pays for that Congressional visit out of her own pocket, and now what has the *Post* to say about it?

A DEMOCRATIC contemporary speaks glowingly of "the wide reputation of Congressman LAMAR." Yes; it is a good deal wider than his merit.

SENATOR BOGY, of Missouri, would seem to be a walking illustration of how much material can be used in making a man and yet have nothing left for his brains.

THE Democratic canvass for the Senatorial succession from Mississippi is becoming quite heated. There are already four candidates in the field, each of whom imagines that he alone has the identical strawberry mark.

THE new Postmaster of the House was a rebel cavalryman, and he seems to imagine that he is on a raid at present. He is a Virginian, and has given all the places at his disposal to the Virginia delegation, who have filled them with ex-Confederates from that State.

AN interesting fact is obtained from the classification of the expenditures of the Government during the last fiscal year. It is that the actual expenses of the Government, aside from the extraordinary expenses on account of pensions, the interest on the public debt, and on public works, were only $97,743,000 in round numbers.

IT IS stated that the convicted St. Louis whisky thieves will be sentenced this week; in connection with which fact it may be mentioned that ex-Chief Clerk AVERY has been staying at Washington with his family since his conviction, and does not, so it is said, "seem to think he will have to go to the penitentiary." Guess he miscalculates, though.

A WAGGISH toper was once passing by a church at midnight, and heard the clock slowly chime twelve. He counted the strokes and then looked up at the clock and said: "Why couldn't you give us all that at once?" The *Gazette* should pack its third term utterances into as small a space as possible, or it will presently have no audience.

THE general business of England shows even a more marked falling off than that which has taken place here. The London *Times* of a late date says:

"While we are sending considerably less out of the country, and getting smaller prices for what we do send, we are at the same time buying more largely, so that were the balance of payments dependent upon our trade figures alone it would soon be against us."

THE export movement in grain at Philadelphia last week amounted to 179,009 bushels. The total exports thus far during the year aggregate 7,213,286 bushels, and the whole amount, the *Bulletin* thinks, will reach eight millions. This is the largest export of breadstuffs ever made from that port in a single year, and the increase has been made at the expense of New York, whose exports have correspondingly diminished.

THE annual convention of the American Board of Transportation and Commerce meets at Chicago to-day. A vigorous demonstration, it is said, promises to be made against existing railroad combinations and discriminating freights, and it is not impossible that the upshot may be another call for a double track freight railway across the continent, to be under Government supervision. There will be many able men in the convention.

SOME of the papers have published a report that the Guatemalan Minister's trunk, contaifing fifteen millions of bonds, had been stolen in New York. There was nothing, really, of any value in the stolen trunk. It contained a quantity of clothing and a number of private papers and public documents of great value to the Minister from Guatamala, consisting chiefly of diplomatic correspondence, but of not the slightest value to any person not connected with the embassy.

IT SEEMS to be the general impression among the politico-economists of Germany, that the five milliards war indemnity paid by France has, paradoxical as it may appear, actually impoverished the former country by provoking that reckless speculation of which the present stagnation in industry and trade is a direct consequence. The *Kladeradatsch* wittily proposes that the loser in the next great war shall be compelled to receive that sum from the winner.

A BILL of complaint in equity has just been filed in the United States Circuit Court of St. Louis by A. J. AMBLER against the directors of the "Missouri Liquid Fuel and Illuminating Company." The complainant states that he is the inventor of a process of generating gas from petroleum through the agency of steam, which is in extensive use in the manufactories, iron works, etc., of St. Louis, and has been largely introduced throughout the country. The suit involves millions of dollars' worth of property, and will attract unusual attention.

IT HAS just leaked out that that Louisiana contested election case was sprung upon the House by a preconcerted Democratic arrangement for the very purpose of testing the strength of the party upon the Louisiana business, with a view of opening up the whole question as to the legality of the KELLOGG government. It is said that FERNANDO WOOD was selected to make the objection, because they did not want it to come from a Southern man. This places MR. WOOD—who affirmed in a recent interview that he had no intention of reviving the Louisiana question—in a very unenviable light.

SINCE the subject of non-sectarian public school education began to assume such prominence, so many inquiries for information as to constitutional provisions in regard to educational matters have been addressed to the Bureau of Education that the Commissioner has caused a pamphlet to be prepared as the best answer that can be given. It is thought to be complete in all that expressly relates to educational, literary or scientific matters in the Constitution of each of the States from the beginning down to the present time. The idea did not by any means originate with President GRANT.

WE WERE led by the tone of the Newark *Evening Courier*, edited by Mr. J. Y. FOSTER, to treat the letter to Mr. BLAINE, recently published as his, as a forgery; but Mr. FOSTER, it seems, has since admitted that the letter, as published, is substantially correct. It was never received by Mr. BLAINE, and having been just published in a Democratic paper, the presumption is that some Democrat got hold of it in some dishonest way and made it public. It was a very foolish letter, at best, and we do not wonder that its author, on its first appearance, was ashamed of it.

THE Lord Mayor of London has actually turned poet, having written a "poem" on imagination, extending over 1,600 lines, beginning with the flood and ending with the millenium. Not only has he done this, but a volume of miscellaneous verse is soon to be published which will shed a new halo around his head. In the former "work" he states, in his preface, that "the reader will not find that diffuseness of style and method which is a distinguishing feature in the works of some poets." Judging from the taste of his quality which KATE FIELD gives us in her latest London letter, this would seem to be strictly true.

IT HAVING been decided by the Democratic majority in the Lower House of Congress that Representative WHITTHORNE, of Tennessee, an ex-rebel leader, is to have the Naval Affairs Committee, it is, we are informed, "not thought good policy to put an ex-Confederate General at the head of the Committee on Military Affairs." Hence it is stated that it has been determined that General BANKS shall have this Chairmanship, perhaps for the reason that he is the only Northern General in that body who has any affiliation with the Democratic party, and because he won fewer victories than almost any other Union commander during the war.

THE verdict in the second trial of EGNER, the Cincinnati murderer, of murder in the second degree, is another indication of the unwillingness of juries to find verdicts that will consign a man to the gallows.

This crime, known as "the Tanyard murder," was an exceedingly brutal one, and was plainly planned beforehand, with deliberation and set purpose. The circumstances of the crime were such that EGNER must, if guilty at all, be guilty of murder in the first degree. If it was not a deliberate murder there never was one. Yet we find the criminal let off with the punishment for a lower offense, and that solely because the jury shrank from inflicting the penalty for the higher crime.

A similar verdict having been rendered in Philadelphia, where a jealous husband deliberately lay in wait for his wife on the public streets, and having found her, proceeded to cut her throat, and was found guilty, upon his trial, of murder in the second degree, we are impelled to the conclusion that this reluctance to render verdicts that lead to hanging, is not only a growing but a general one. The slightest tinge of doubt in favor of the prisoner serves to turn a jury from rendering a verdict involving the life of the accused.

For all practical purposes, the gallows might as well henceforth be abolished. When the community shrinks from enforcing the extreme penalty of the law it will seldom be enforced. It must be a very clear case, indeed, that will induce a verdict of murder in the first degree; and the consequence is that men really guilty of the highest crime receive only the punishment due to a lower grade of criminality. It is time, therefore, that legislators should look this thing in the face, and see whether it is not practicable to devise some method for the better and surer administration of justice.

THE PRESIDENCY OF THE SENATE.

The Democratic lawyers at Washington city have, it is said, united in the decision that, as the Senate did not proceed, upon its reassembling, to elect a President *pro tem.*, in the absence of Vice President WILSON, there is not, at this time, any such officer, and that consequently, if the President should die, Speaker KERR would legally step into his place.

This opinion is based upon the following passage from Jefferson's Manual:

"In the Senate a President *pro tem.* in the absence of the Vice President is proposed and chosen by ballot. His office is *understood* to be determined on the Vice President taking the chair or at the meeting of the Senate after the recess."

But Jefferson's Manual is not law in such cases, however authoritative it may be in questions of parliamentary practice. The Constitution provides in the 5th paragraph of sect. III., Art. I., as follows:

"The Senate shall choose their other officers, and also a President *pro tempore*, in the absence of the Vice President, or when he shall exercise the office of President of the United States."

The Senate is thus clothed with full power to determine, for its own guidance, *when* an absence of the Vice President occurs, and whether his absence is to be regarded as special or general. Senator FERRY was chosen President *pro tem.* of the Senate, last winter, during the absence of the Vice President at the close of the session, and that absence has now been made continuous. If the Senate chooses to regard him as having been then elected to supply the absence of the Vice President so long as that absence continues, it certainly has power to do so, and Mr. FERRY is, and has been since this session began, treated by it as its regularly chosen presiding officer.

Jefferson's Manual has never, that we know of, been adopted by the Senate as the embodiment of its views on this subject; and many of the precedents established by it have been directly in the teeth of the declaration of the Manual that the office of President *pro tem.* is "understood" to be determined on the meeting of the Senate after the recess." There are at least half a dozen precedents to the contrary, and while the early practice of the Senate, at the time the Manual was framed, was in accordance with the rule we have quoted from it, the later practice has been just the reverse. Not only have Presidents *pro tem.* taken possession of the chair, at the meeting of the Senate after the recess, without a new election, but they have, when temporarily absent during the session, named a Senator to take their place, the Senate not objecting; and the rule, so far as it can be inferred from the practice of the Senate, has been to regard an election of President *pro tem.* at the close of a session as extending to and including the following session. There have been incidental departures from this practice; but the weight of authority and precedent is in its favor.

Whatever the practice or the rule may have been, the Constitution plainly leaves it with the Senate to decide who shall be its President *pro tem.*, and this clearly includes the right to be the exclusive judge of the fact whether it has or has not such an officer. Whomsoever it recognizes as such is, in point of fact, the President *pro tem.* of the Senate, and all other branches of the Government are bound to recognize him in that capacity. The House has no more power to determine the question than the Senate has to decide whether the House has a legally chosen Speaker or not. He is the Senate's own officer, chosen under constitutional authority, and the Senate is the sole judge of the correctness of the method by which he was chosen.

But, if the right be conceded to the House and the other branches of Government to inquire into and determine the sufficiency of the election of the presiding officer of the Senate, the inquiry clearly cannot be put off until such a contingency may arise as the death of the President. If FERRY has no right to preside over the Senate if he has no right to succeed to the Presidency in case of death; and a recognition of him in *one* capacity is a recognition of him in the *other*. And the House has already recognized him as the presiding officer of the Senate. The very first act of the Senate, when it assembled after the recess, was to notify the House and the President that it was duly organized and ready to proceed to business, which organization included Mr. FERRY as President *pro tem.*; and the House, in recognizing that organization, has recognized and acknowledged its validity. The question, if raised at all, should have been raised *then*. It is too late to raise it now, and it will be still worse to raise it hereafter, after Mr. FERRY has officially signed the acts and joint resolutions of the two Houses, and been officially recognized by all departments of the Government as the legal occupant of the Vice President's place.

THE TARIFF.

The free traders of the East, including the importers of foreign goods, who furnish the money needed for the purpose, have determined upon making a strong effort to reduce the tariff at this session of Congress. They have, or they think they have, the House with them, and they will proceed, at the earliest possible day, to arrange the tariff in such a way as to revive and increase the importations of foreign goods. That such legislation would tend, directly, to the complete prostration of our national industries cannot be successfully questioned; and we advise the laboring men of the country to watch closely and note by whose hands they are stricken down. A special dispatch to the Philadelphia *Press* says:

The probability that Speaker Kerr will appoint an anti-protection committee on ways and means has excited no little enthusiasm among the free traders, and already I perceive symptoms of the approach of a lively contest on the subject of protection and free trade. A prominent protectionist, speaking on this question, remarked to me that the bearing of the question was not simply one of duty, but would affect every important interest of the country, that finance was a question of labor, and the question of labor was one of protection; that the people and their industries in every part of the land were affected by it; that an illustration of the high tariff in France after the Franco-Prussian war, amounting almost to prohibition, set every industry into action, that it enabled France to pay the enormous indemnity levied upon her by Germany, and that now her people are prosperous and happy while the industries and people of Germany are idle. He said that the policy of France is undermining the arms of Germany. To open this question in the House would give rise to one of the most determined contests ever known there, especially as the majority are new members and will probably seize the opportunity to demonstrate how little they know on the subject.

A CASE of considerable interest to firms owning patents is on trial in the United States Circuit Court of New York. It appears that a certain patent, which has since proved of some value, was solely assigned to the individual members of a certain business house in that city, the firm consisting of two partners. Last February the copartnership was dissolved, one of the members selling his interest to the other. No mention was made of the patent at the time of the dissolution. The latter now claims that he became the sole owner of the patent, as it was part of his former partner's "interest in the copartnership," and brings suit to enforce a formal assignment to that effect. The defendant denies that the patent was partnership property, avers that it was personal property, independent of the firm's business, and that he therefore retained his right to the patent at the time of the dissolution, and that had he intended to assign the patent, special mention would have been made in his bill of sale. The question is a new one, and the decision of the court will be awaited with some interest by inventors and others.

THE annual meeting of the Philadelphia Union League, last Monday, was an unusually spirited affair. The following officers were elected:

President—John P. Verre.

Vice Presidents—J. Gillingham Fell, Adolph E. Borie, Charles E. Smith, James V. Watson. Directors—James L. Claghorn, William C. Houston, John J. Hartmann, Edward S. Buckley, R. H. Bartol, Aubrey H. Smith, Edwin R. Cope, Frederic Collins, E. N. Benson, Thomas Hart, Jr., Alexander Biddle, Silas W. Pettit, Andrew Wheeler, John Hockley, Jr., Samuel H. Rothermel.

The following proposed amendments to the constitution and by-laws of the League are to be voted on to-morrow, the first being supported by the VERREE party, the second by the KNIGHT wing:

No political action shall be taken by the Union League, or by its Board of Directors, unless expressly authorized by a vote of a majority of the members of the League voting thereon; said vote to be ordered at either the annual meeting of the League or at a special meeting called for such purpose, and to be taken by ballot.

The League shall take no action relating to nominations for, or elections to, any municipal office. And no opinion on any political subject shall be promulgated or published as the sentiment of the League, except by a vote of a majority of the members present at a general meeting, or by a vote of a majority present at a special meeting convened to consider the subject.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

He knows not the path of duty
Who says that the way is sweet:
But he who is blind to the beauty,
And finds but thorns for his feet.

He alone is the perfect giver
Who knows that his gift is naught:
And he is the sure receiver
Who gains what he never sought.

Against the darkness outer
God's light His likeness takes,
And He from the mighty doubter
The great believer makes.

The "pork crop" is getting thoroughly ripe, out West.

Longfellow declines with thanks; he is too old to make Centennial poetry to order.

Fishy. A Kentucky farmer claims to be the owner of a dog that will-not eat meat on Fridays.

Alaska will probably be attached to Washington Territory and be made a county of the same.

The New York Shoe Manufacturers' Association will reduce the wages of their employees twenty per cent. to-day.

Virginia City, Nev., consumes from two to three tons of fish daily. The people evidently appreciate their need of brains.

The death of poor Beau Hickman, of Washington, leaves a nice place for some disappointed Democratic candidate for office.

Hard times? The number of insane people in this country this year, it is said, is nearly twenty-five per cent. larger than last year.

The fact that the female members of Plymouth church outnumber the male nearly two to one may possible help to explain some things.

The New York *Herald* has organized an expedition to discover the whereabouts of Tweed. It includes scouts on land and steam tugs on water.

The game of racket, which has been out of existence for almost a century, is being actively revived in New York. There is also a big racket club in Washington city.

Oregon gives an annual premium to the man who kills the most squirrels in the course of the year, and it went, this year, to an old chap of over seventy, whose tally was 1,538.

"All are but parts of one stupendous whole." The war in far-off Malacca has so diminished the production of Java tin that the price of that ware must advance considerably.

Shall we go? The weather at Columbus, Ga., is so balmy that fine large strawberries are ripening in the open air, tomatoes are still coming to market, and the trees are budding.

One of the Maine "ponds" or small lakes was covered on Sunday with men and boys cutting large quantities of frozen herrings out of the ice. The fish were frozen in during the recent cold snap.

Many of the vessel owners of Chicago purpose to change the ports of hail of their craft, upon the ground that while vessel property has materially depreciated of late, the appraisement remains as high as ever.

Slavery redivivus. A plantation of 4,000 acres on the Ogeechee river, Ga., was lately bought by a firm who will work the place permanently with one hundred Georgia colored convicts, sent to the penitentiary for trivial offenses.

One of the best indications of the complete final triumph of justice over the "whisky ring" is that all spirit of mutual help has vanished, each member being "for himself and the devil for them all," as the old saying has it.

The aggregate number of terms served by the Republicans in the Lower House of Congress is 377, or a trifle over 3½ terms on an average, while the number served by the 176 Democrats is only 380, or a little over two terms on an average.

A new disease has been discovered. It is the "hotel fever," that is, "iow malarial fever" which people catch moping around big hotels at fancy watering places in hot weather, when they ought to be at home living and working like sensible Christians.

During the reconnoissance recently effected in the Steppes by the Russian troops they discovered the ruins of an ancient city, the existence of which was hitherto unknown. The site bears the traces of a vast system of irrigation, and a plentiful supply of drinkable water is still found there.

Virginia seems to be doomed, so far as the raising of sheep is concerned. Whole flocks fall victims to the ravages of the thousands of curs that infest the State. In some counties there will not be enough money collected from the dog tax at seventy-five cents per head to pay twenty-five cents on the dollar of losses.

PERSONAL.

Justice Swayne's son will marry Justice Davis' daughter at Christmas time, but it is presumed that these second generation representatives of the Supreme bench did their own courting.

Mrs. A. M. Wood, widow of Gen. R. C. Wood, United States Army, and daughter of the late President Zachary Taylor, died at Freiburg, Baden, Germany, on the 2d instant, in the 65th year of her age.

A young man aged twenty-two has just been appointed Assistant Librarian of the House. He said that he was unable to take the iron-clad oath, and took the modified one. As he could have been only twelve years old when the war ended, and seven when it began, his opposition to the Union must be hereditary.

There are some statistics regarding the new Congress that are quite interesting. It is a Congress of young, rather than old men. The majority of the members are in the early stage of middle life, the youngest being twenty-nine and only one being over seventy. All but seven are natives of the United States. Sixty-nine of the 175 members have received a college education.

A gentleman who has just returned to Washington from an extended tour through the South, says that every fence, every rock and every stable from Manassas Junction to Pensacola is decorated with this legend in flaming red flannel letters: "Try Simmonds' Liver Regulator—Hon. J. B. Gordon Uses It." Senator Gordon ought to have more respect for his liver than to countenance this use of his name.

Another of the original leaders of the anti-slavery movement passes away with Mr. Charles G. Case, of Fulton, Oswego county, New York, who died at his home in that place last Thursday, at the age of seventy-six years. He was a recognized leader of the abolitionists of Northern New York, and several times in the days when they were weak in numbers stood as their candidate for Representative in Congress and member of the Assembly. As a friend and associate he was a prominent co-laborer in the anti-slavery cause with the late Gerrit Smith, and so strong were his sympathies with the new movement that, though of an exceedingly religious nature, he severed his connection with the Methodist Episcopal Church on account of its conservative political attitude.

A Widely Applicable Remedy.

Few remedies are applicable to such a wide range of disorders as Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, and this not because it has special properties adapted to the cure of each—such a pretense would be manifestly absurd—but on account of its wonderfully improving effect upon the general tone of the system, and its alterative action upon the organs of nutrition, secretion and discharge. Besides its well known properties as a remedy for intermittent and remittent fevers, dyspepsia, constipation, torpidity of the liver, general debility, urinary and uterine difficulties, it invariably proves to be highly serviceable in overcoming anæmia, hypochondria, rheumatism, insomnia, and many other disorders and disabilities originating in poverty or impurity of the blood, nervous weakness or over-excitement, or an imperfect performance of the physical functions.

FORTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

Speculations as to the Tactics of the Two Parties During the Present Session—No One to Lead the Democracy—Probabilities and Possibilities.

[Washington Cor. of Baltimore American.]

Two contending armies within short range could hardly watch the movements of each other with more solicitude than do now the opposing political factions in the House of Representatives. Distrust seems to manifest itself among the rank and file of both. This brings to the leaders that moral trepidation which must ensue when they have lost faith in their forces.

Pre-eminently the present session in Congress is in a large measure to settle the Presidential campaign. It is no time to make false moves. The people, always awake in their interests, are keeping zealous vigil over the doings of their representatives, and many are ready to give support to the party which promises to afford the greatest amount of relief to the distressed industries of the country.

In organization the Republicans in the House are almost perfect. They present first a united front on all questions of public policy. There is a determination to stand by one another. It is this cohesive power with which they expect to accomplish great results. Then, again, the party leaders are skilled, watchful, and experienced. With Blaine as a field marshal, seconded by such lieutenants as Garfield, Hoar, Wheeler and others, no wonder the majority fear the lesser number, even on the threshold of a promised active campaign.

On the other hand, the Democrats are at sea. True, they bring to their support many old and experienced members. But they carry also a load of drift-wood in the new ones. It is this latter element which their leaders fear. While the majority of them may be willing to act as automatons at the behest of their elders in legislative experience, it is not safe to assume that they can muzzle the mouths of all. Such men as Hill, of Georgia, John Young Brown, of Kentucky, and others of that school, have long been awaiting the very opportunity now presented to give vent to feelings for years pent up within them. They can hardly be controlled. It will take more than the good offerings of Lamar, of Mississippi, to neutralize the damaging utterances expected from the hotspurs.

The Democrats, too, have no real leader. Randall can extricate them when one to assume the aggressive is required. He can make an attack with damaging force. He can hardly be the one to rely on to repeal it. Wood displayed his weakness as a tactician on the first day of the session in the Louisiana business; even his party decided against him, and hence he must stand aside. Holman is too slow, too captious, and, without chronically a growler. Cox is given to too much levity to do the heavy business. Swann has neither the voice nor the inclination to lead. Among the one hundred and seventy-six Democrats there is really no one to take the first place. But even if there was it is questionable whether the members would rally under him. It will take more than one session to break in one hundred inexperienced colts. The very differences which take wide range on the financial question alone may strand the party early in the session; and one of the very first questions upon which the Republicans will force them on the record will be this.

The distrust among the Republicans arises in another direction. They lack nothing in leadership. In Blaine they have a power of strength; any tactics which he displays as an individual member on questions of public policy, even though precipitated upon the House, will meet with a unanimous response from his party. They will act as a unit.

The difficulty with the party is how far will they support the opposition in ordering the multitude of investigations threatened. In those they deem essential, even the Democrats will be surprised at the cooperation which will be accorded them. That within the party which needs reform will be met with no opposition from the party in accomplishing it. In any movements made by the Democrats looking to the purification of the offices under the Department of Justice in the South no opposition need be expected, nor, indeed, to any like reform. But when the majority, for the mere purpose of throwing out a drag-net, order indiscriminately the production of papers and the attendance of persons to satisfy an ill-grounded suspicion of something wrong, they must expect resistance. The Democrats expect to make capital by going into what they assert to be dark and mysterious proceedings used in the appointment of the Syndicate. They hope also to add to whatever there is of odium by the whisky fraud exposure upon General Babcock, in an attempt to prove him a member of Hallett Kilbourn's District real estate pool. Whether they fail or succeed in this, they will go further and again reopen the District investigation, with special reference to the scandalous measurements made under that officer's administration, and for which somebody is clearly responsible and should be punished.

Back of this investigation there is a higher game than a Colonel of Engineers that they hope to bag. Through the operations of the Syndicate the attempt is to be made to smirch the name of Bristow, now booming up prominently as a possible Presidential candidate. With Babcock's operations they hope to drag in the President.

Another movement will be to make the Postoffice Department absolutely self-supporting. What Jewell failed to accomplish in a District of Columbia Court—the breaking up of the system of straw bids for postcontes, and the punishment of those already guilty—is hoped to be through an investigation. And, again, in this case the Republicans yield a hearty support. They will not only endorse the general propositents in an effort to this end honestly directed, but will afford them aid through facts and statistics, which Governor Jewell himself will gladly furnish. Without honest system of letting and careful and economical administration, the Department can be made self-supporting, and no one seeks to make it so more than its present administrative head.

I mention the matter of investigations as one which excites some distrust with the rank and file, as to how their leaders will endeavor to conduct them. But in the midst of all the Presidential capital making which is expected, the third term business enters as the prime element, calculated to sow the seeds of division. With this question settled the phalanx of the Republican party is solid and immovable. Still agitated, it is liable before the session closes to be diffused.

There is no denying the fact that Mr. Blaine's aspirations for the Presidency are as keen as ever. What was deemed almost fatal to his chances one year ago is judged differently now. The success of the Democracy in securing the House places him in a position better calculated to show his party to how much gratitude he is entitled. He is looked upon as the Moses by whom and through whose efforts the minority expect to repel any attacks which are certain to be made from the other side. The very force of circumstances which has placed him in this position, give him an opportunity for better gaining the current of popular favor, than hamstringing down with a bone gang of noisy Democrats and expounding parliamentary law.

And now another weak point of the Democracy. That they gained in part prestige by the elevation of Michael C. Kerr to the Speaker's chair must be apparent to them is neutralized by the physical incapacities of the man to administer its duties. He has as yet displayed no aptitude for the place. His voice can scarcely be heard over the chamber, even with ordinary decorum. How he is to rule the House when the exciting scenes of the session set in is hard to divine. The Speaker's gavel is not a very effective weapon in the hands of a sick man.

A female lecturer is telling the people that potatoes have a stupefying effect on them. She must have eaten a great many, herself.

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Entirely removed with purely vegetable medicine, passing from the system alive. No cure unless the head passes. Come and see it before it is destroyed. Dr. E. F. KUNKEL, No. 239 North Ninth street, Philada. Advice free. No. 259 Tin and Stomach Worms also removed; never fails. For removing all kinds but Tape Worm, the medicine must be had of your druggist. Ask for KUNKEL'S WORM SYRUP. Price $1. For Tape Worm, the patient must come on and have it removed. MWF

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Persons desiring to procure Patents, or wishing to obtain information from the U. S. Patent Office, are advised to consult F. A. LEHMANN, of Washington, D. C., corner of Seventh and G streets, or Room 8, 16 Sixth street Pittsburgh. Send for circular.

MISCELLANEOUS.

International Exposition of 1876.

UNITED STATES CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE, PHILADELPHIA, PA., November 24, 1875.

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(Signed) JOHN WELSH,
President Centennial Board of Finance.
A. T. GOSHORN,
Director General U. S. Centennial Committee.

OFFICE OF CENTENNIAL CATALOGUE CO., PHILADELPHIA, PA., December 1, 1875.

Messrs. S. M. Pettengill & Co., Advertising Agents of Philadelphia, New York and Boston.

GENTLEMEN: This is to certify that we have this day appointed you our exclusive agents for the United States and Canada for the Advertising Department of the Official Catalogue of the Centennial Exhibition of 1876. Yours, respectfully,

JOHN S. MORTON, President.

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At 19½c, Tycoon Repps, for wrappers.
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At 12½c, New Dark Dress Goods, excellent value.
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At 22½c, Wool Serge Dress Goods, choice colors.
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Expectations has so far attended our efforts to satisfy the Wants of our Friends and the Public in giving them Good Value in
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Our stock is one of the largest in either city, and as we are constantly receiving

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WE MAKE SPECIALTIES OF
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We desire particular attention to the following goods, in which our prices are beyond all doubt the lowest possible:
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FINANCE AND TRADE.

TUESDAY EVENING, December 14, 1875.

Monetary affairs continue to move steadily, the principal topic of discussion of a financial character for the past two days having been the disagreement in the stockholders' meeting of the Pittsburgh and Connelisville Railroad. About the matter there are a variety of opinions, agreeing principally in the absence of authentic information about the financial condition of that corporation, on which opinions can properly be formed. The loan market continues to move along steadily and shows little alteration from the state previously reported. Exchange continued in viously moderate supply, and drafts on New York ruled at par in transactions between the banks. We note another advance reported from New York on sterling exchange, the rates now being 485@485¼ for short dates, and 489@489¼ for long dates. Concerning the movement of currency throughout the country the New York *Bulletin* says that "rates of New York exchange at the Southern cities almost favor the shipment of currency from here. Heavy shipments were made early last week, but in the latter part of the week these dwindled to unimportant amounts. Little currency is going to the West, although the large banks are having offered to them a good deal of Western paper for rediscount. The currency movement with the neighboring interior is in favor of the New York banks. There is another element in the market which must be taken into account, and that is that the savings banks are quietly fortifying themselves by the transfer of legal-tender notes from the Clearing House banks to their own vaults, they doing this so as to be abundantly provided for any contingency. Prime mercantile paper sells at 6 @8 per cent., long date having the preference with buyers. Early in January currency will begin to flow here from the West, and rates ought again to drop."

—The dealings in stocks and securities continue rather light and are principally of a private character. In Philadelphia yesterday Allegheny Valley mcome bonds sold at 49, which furnishes, we believe, the latest data concerning the value of these securities. The Cambria Iron Company's stock also sold at 16¼ and Pennsylvania Canal sixes at 72. Oil Creek and Allegheny Valley Railroad showed an advance to 11½. We hear of recent sales at auction here of the stock of the German National Bank, Allegheny, at $97 50; Allegheny Suspension Bridge at $54; Diamond Savings Bank, Allegheny, at $25, and Manchester Savings Bank at $40.

—The expectation of the return to specie payments gives renewed importance to all facts bearing upon the production and movement of the precious metals. The Boston *Journal* says with some force that over and beyond the good will of the people to return to a coin basis, there must be a sure supply of coin on hand to begin with, even greater than will be needed after the reform shall have been fairly consummated. Then confidence will of itself almost suffice to keep currency at par, with only an occasional test of the accessibility of coin, whereas at the outset it must be the sure presence of specie in sufficient quantities that can alone establish the general feeling of confidence. The question then comes up as to what the production of bullion and coin in the country is. The San Francisco *Bulletin* gives the following table of bullion production from 1865 to date:

	California.	Nevada.	Total.
1865	$ 28,500,000	$ 11,250,000	$ 39,750,000
1866	25,500,000	10,000,000	35,500,000
1867	25,000,000	13,500,000	38,500,000
1868	29,000,000	12,000,000	34,000,000
1869	22,000,000	12,000,000	34,500,000
1870	25,000,000	16,000,000	41,000,000
1871	20,000,000	18,000,000	38,000,000
1872	19,000,000	28,750,000	47,750,000
1873	17,000,000	35,750,000	51,750,000
1874	15,000,000	38,000,000	53,000,000
Totals	$219,500,000	$200,250,000	$419,750,000

It is a curious feature of this table that the decrease of the California supply should have been so regularly compensated, and somewhat more, by the increase of the production of Nevada. The growth of the latter for the last three or four years is particularly gratifying. It is believed, however, that the falling off in California is not due so much to the exhaustion of the mines as to the increased profitableness of agricultural and other pursuits in the State. The shipments of treasure from San Francisco for the same ten years were as follows:

	Bullion.	Coin.	Total.
1865	$ 35,520,000	$ 8,900,000	$ 44,420,200
1866	33,300,000	9,035,700	44,335,700
1867	37,337,000	8,424,900	45,761,900
1868	35,546,000	4,812,100	40,358,100
1869	25,332,000	11,955,000	37,287,000
1870	24,000,000	13,893,100	37,893,100
1871	12,276,600	4,977,200	17,253,200
1872	19,861,000	9,469,400	29,330,400
1873	17,304,000	10,277,000	27,581,000
1874	12,947,600	17,223,600	30,170,600
Totals	$286,857,000	$102,630,200	$329,187,200
Shipments by mail (mostly coin) estimated			25,000,000
Total			$355,487,200

—We learn from Washington that a circular will soon be issued from the office of the United States Treasurer upon the subject of remittance by national banks to the Treasury for redemption, the condition of which in no respect renders them unfit for circulation. The Treasurer says that hereafter the Government will not pay express charges upon packages of notes sent for redemption when such notes are found to be in good condition, as is the case in numerous instances. The banks will be officially informed of this determination, and advised that hereafter the expense falling upon the Government for expressage upon money sent to the Redemption Bureau, when such money is not in a condition unfit for circulation, will be deducted from the amount received there, and consequently will fall upon the senders.

—In commenting on the recent meeting of the New York merchants to protest against the alleged discrimination by the railroads against New York in the matter of Western freights, the Buffalo *Express* observes:

New York merchants protest that the leading lines of railroads discriminate against them and in favor of Boston merchants in freight rates. If railroad companies do this it is, of course, because they find it to their interest, and it is possible Boston may become a more formidable competitor to New York than it has ever been. A line of railroad is now partly constructed, and bound sooner or later to be completed, that greatly shortens the distance between Boston and Chicago. This includes the route through the Hoosac tunnel; thence to Troyand west to Lake Ontario at Oswego; thence west on the Lake Ontario Shore Railroad, now nearly completed, to the international bridge at this city, and thence over one of the Canada railroads west. If Boston railroad competition is dangerous now to New York it must become more so with this road in operation, and with the enlargement of the Welland Canal, bringing Montreal into active competition with New York, that city would do well to look to its commerce.

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day, furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

December 14, 1875.	10:30 A.M.	11:30 A.M.	1:30 P.M.	2:30 P.M.	3:30 P.M.
Gold	114⅝	114⅝	114⅝	114⅝	114⅝
U. S. 6's, 1881, coup	119	119	...	119	...
5-20's, 1865	118⅛	118⅛	...	118⅛	...
5-20's, 1865, new	119	119	...	119	...
5-20's, 1867, registered	117⅜	117⅜	...	117⅜	...
5-20's, 1867	122⅝	122⅝	...	122⅝	...
5-20's, 1868	122⅝	122⅝	...	122⅝	...
10-40's	117⅜	117⅜	...	117⅜	...
10-40's, coupons	117⅜	117⅜	...	117⅜	...
Currency 6's	122½	122½	...	122½	...
New 5 per cents	112	112	...	112	...
Western Union Tel	76¾	77	76¾	76¾	76¾
Quicksilver	...	...	33½	33½	33½
Pacific Mail	40½	40¾	40¾	40¾	40¾
Panama	...	...	120	...	...
Adams Express	...	...	162½	...	...
Wells-Fargo Ex	...	...	87½	...	...
American Express	...	...	57½	...	...
New York Central	103¾	104	104	104	104
Erie	16⅝	16⅝	16⅝	16⅝	16⅝
Michigan Central	90	90	90	90	90
Michigan Southern	61½	61	61	61½	61½
Illinois Central	...	...	97	97	96
Clev. & Pitts. barge	...	...	90	...	...
Chicago & North-Western	...	...	39¾	...	...
Do preferred	82¾	82¾	83½	...	83
Rock Island	96	96	96	...	95½
St. Paul, common	35½	35½	35½	...	104½
Do preferred	85	85	85	...	85
Wabash, com-mon	...	65½	65½	...	64
Fort Wayne	...	...	99	...	45
Ohio & Mississippi	...	...	27	...	27½
Union Pacific	76⅜	76	76⅜	76⅜	76
Terre Haute	...	...	5	...	5
Harrisb'g & St. Joe	...	...	20	...	...
Do preferred	...	...	30	...	...
Atlantic & P., pref'd	...	...	35½	...	35
Iron Mountain	...	...	16	...	16
Missouri Pacific	...	11½	...	...	12
C., C. & I. C.	...	...	...	...	...
South Carolina, April	...	...	45	...	45
South Carolina, July	...	...	...	...	...
Missouri 6's	...	102⅝	...	102⅝	...

—The following is the report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

Stocks.	Bid.	Asked.	Sales.
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Reading	55	55¾	...
United Co's of N. J	...	139	...
Oil Creek	...	...	11
Lehigh Valley	...	...	62
Allegheny Valley	9½	...	...
Central Transp'n Co.	...	...	46
Pacific Transp'n Co.	...	52	...
F., C. and St. L. m. b.	...	...	75½

(By Associated Press.)

Gold Closed at 114⅝.

MONEY.

NEW YORK, December 14.—Money 4@6 per cent., closing at 5. Prime mercantile paper 6@8 per cent. Produce exports $6,521,000. Customs receipts $347,000. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $125,000. Clearings $29,000,000. Sterling steady at 485@489.

GOLD.

Gold opened and closed at 114⅝, sales being made in the meantime at 114⅞. Rates paid for carrying were 1, 2 and 1⅝ per cent; loans also made flat.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Government bonds higher and in brisk demand. In railroad bonds the leading feature was an advance in Chicago and Northwestern consolidated coupon gold bonds from 85¾ to 86, under large purchases; do consolidated sinking fund 7 at 90; Central Pacifics at 84; Western Pacifics at 98, and Union Pacific sinking funds at 93¾. State securities dull. Stocks were dull and featureless. The market at the opening was weak and prices declined from ¼ to ⅞ per cent., but at the close was firm under the lead of Northwestern, which advanced to 40@40¼, and the decline of the morning in the general list was recovered. Erie preferred was notably strong. Transactions at the Stock Exchange aggregated 85,000 shares, of which 7,000 were Pacific Mail, 23,000 Western Union, 11,000 Northwestern, 25,000 Lake Shore, 4,000 Ohio and Mississippi and 3,000 Union Pacific.

The following were the closing quotations:

STOCKS.

W. U. Telegraph	76¾	St. Paul	35¾
Pacific Mail	40¾	Do preferred	85
Adams Express	102½	Toledo & Wabash	25¾
Wells Fargo Ex	87½	Do preferred	50
American Ex	57	Terre Haute	5
United States Ex	86	Do preferred	20
New York Central	104	Fort Wayne	99
Erie	16⅝	Chicago & Alton	97½
Do preferred	37	Do preferred	105
Harlem	134½	Ohio & Mississippi	27½
Do preferred	133	Indiana Central	4
Mich. Central	90½	Burlington & Quincy	115
Lake Shore	61½	Hannibal & St. Joe	15
Illinois Central	96½	Delaware & Lack	119½
Cleveland & Pitts	90½	Atlantic & Pac Tel	18
Northwestern	40	Union Pac. stock	76
Do preferred	85¾	Central Pac. bds	93½
N. J. Central	104½	Union Pac. bds	104¾
Rock Island	104½		

GOVERNMENTS.

U. S. coupons, 1881	124½	New 5's	117¾
5-20's, 1865	116	10-30's	117¾
5-20's, 1865, new	122¾	10-40's coupons	117¾
5-20's, 1867	122¾	Currency 6's	122½
5-20's, 1868	122¾		

STATE BONDS.

Tennessee, old	43¾	Virginia, old	38
Tennessee, new	43¾	Missouri 6's	102½
Virginia, new	57		

LONDON, December 14, 5 p. m.—The amount of bullion withdrawn from the Bank of England on balance to-day was £11,000. The rate for money at the Stock Exchange on Government securities is 2¾ per cent. Consols for money and account 93 15-16. United States bonds—5-20's, 1865, do 1867, do 1868, 10-40's, new 5's 104¾. Railroad securities—New York Central 98; Erie 14½; do preferred 31.

PARIS, December 14.—Rentes 56 francs 80 centimes.

FRANKFORT, December 14.—United States bonds—New 5's, 95¾.

NEW ORLEANS, December 14.—Gold 114. Sight ¼ discount. Sterling—Commercial 540@

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, TUESDAY, December 14, 1875.

There was a very quiet feeling in trade circles to-day and business in most respects was rather limited. There is some incentive to trade felt from the demand for holiday goods, but that is hardly strong enough yet to overcome the lull in business that follows the closing of the fall trade. There was no noticeable movement in prices except in petroleum, in which the changes were slight.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce since our last are as follows:

Flour, bbls	2,466	Apples, bbls	62
Wheat, bus	1,854	Cheese, bxs	242
Corn, bus	720	Butter, pkgs	90
Barley, bus	450	Bacon tons	25
Rye bus	400	Beans, pcs	6,057
Oats, bus	1,400	Hay, bales	130

The quotations given in the following reports are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free of elevator.

Breadstuffs and Produce.

GRAIN—There was a quiet and rather slow trade at steady prices. Wheat was unchanged. We quote Michigan white wheat at $1 38@1 40 ₱ bushel; Pennsylvania and Ohio do 1 33@1 35; Northwestern red $1 35@1 38; prime sound red winter $1 27@1 30; low grade do $1 15@1 25; rejected do $1 00@1 10, as to quality. Corn was steady without quotable change in values. We quote old shelled at 66@67c ₱ bushel for prime yellow; 64@66c for high mixed; 62@63c for low mixed; new car contmues easy at 45@48c for mixed; 50@52c for choice yellow; new shelled rules at 56@58c for choice; 45@47c for low mixed; new ear continues easy at 45@48c for mixed; 50@52c for choice yellow; new shelled rules at 56@58c for choice; 45@47c for low mixed; only an occasional test of the accessibility of coin, whereas at the outset it must be the sure presence of specie in sufficient quantities that can alone establish the general feeling of confidence. The question then comes up as to what the production of bullion and coin in the country is. The San Francisco *Bulletin* gives the following table of bullion production from 1865 to date:

	California	Nevada	Total.
1865	$ 28,500,000	$ 11,250,000	$ 39,750,000
1866	25,500,000	10,000,000	35,500,000
1867	25,000,000	13,500,000	38,500,000
1868	29,000,000	12,000,000	34,000,000
1869	22,000,000	12,000,000	34,500,000
1870	25,000,000	16,000,000	41,000,000
1871	20,000,000	18,000,000	38,000,000
1872	19,000,000	28,750,000	47,750,000
1873	17,000,000	35,750,000	51,750,000
1874	15,000,000	38,000,000	53,000,000
Totals	$219,500,000	$200,250,000	$419,750,000

It is a curious feature of this table that the decrease of the California supply should have been so regularly compensated, and somewhat more, by the increase of the production of Nevada. The growth of the latter for the last three or four years is particularly gratifying. It is believed, however, that the falling off in California is not due so much to the exhaustion of the mines as to the increased profitableness of agricultural and other pursuits in the State. The shipments of treasure from San Francisco for the same ten years were as follows:

	Bullion.	Coin.	Total.
1865	$ 35,520,000	$ 8,900,000	$ 44,420,200
1866	33,300,000	9,035,700	44,335,700
1867	37,337,000	8,424,900	45,761,900
1868	35,546,000	4,812,100	40,358,100
1869	25,332,000	11,955,000	37,287,000
1870	24,000,000	13,893,100	37,893,100
1871	12,276,600	4,977,200	17,253,200
1872	19,861,000	9,469,400	29,330,400
1873	17,304,000	10,277,000	27,581,000
1874	12,947,600	17,223,600	30,170,600
Totals	$286,857,000	$102,630,200	$329,187,200
Shipments by mail (mostly coin) estimated			25,000,000
Total			$355,487,200

—We learn from Washington that a circular will soon be issued from the office of the United States Treasurer upon the subject of remittance by national banks to the Treasury for redemption, the condition of which in no respect renders them unfit for circulation. The Treasurer says that hereafter the Government will not pay express charges upon packages of notes sent for redemption when such notes are found to be in good condition, as is the case in numerous instances. The banks will be officially informed of this determination, and advised that hereafter the expense falling upon the Government for expressage upon money sent to the Redemption Bureau, when such money is not in a condition unfit for circulation, will be deducted from the amount received there, and consequently will fall upon the senders.

—In commenting on the recent meeting of the New York merchants to protest against the alleged discrimination by the railroads against New York in the matter of Western freights, the Buffalo *Express* observes:

New York merchants protest that the leading lines of railroads discriminate against them and in favor of Boston merchants in freight rates. If railroad companies do this it is, of course, because they find it to their interest, and it is possible Boston may become a more formidable competitor to New York than it has ever been. A line of railroad is now partly constructed, and bound sooner or later to be completed, that greatly shortens the distance between Boston and Chicago. This includes the route through the Hoosac tunnel; thence to Troyand west to Lake Ontario at Oswego; thence west on the Lake Ontario Shore Railroad, now nearly completed, to the international bridge at this city, and thence over one of the Canada railroads west. If Boston railroad competition is dangerous now to New York it must become more so with this road in operation, and with the enlargement of the Welland Canal, bringing Montreal into active competition with New York, that city would do well to look to its commerce.

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5-20's, 1865	118⅛	118⅛	...	118⅛	...
5-20's, 1865, new	119	119	...	119	...
5-20's, 1867, registered	117⅜	117⅜	...	117⅜	...
5-20's, 1867	122⅝	122⅝	...	122⅝	...
5-20's, 1868	122⅝	122⅝	...	122⅝	...
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10-40's, coupons	117⅜	117⅜	...	117⅜	...
Currency 6's	122½	122½	...	122½	...
New 5 per cents	112	112	...	112	...
Western Union Tel	76¾	77	76¾	76¾	76¾
Quicksilver	...	...	33½	33½	33½
Pacific Mail	40½	40¾	40¾	40¾	40¾
Panama	...	...	120	...	...
Adams Express	...	...	162½	...	...
Wells-Fargo Ex	...	...	87½	...	...
American Express	...	...	57½	...	...
New York Central	103¾	104	104	104	104
Erie	16⅝	16⅝	16⅝	16⅝	16⅝
Michigan Central	90	90	90	90	90
Michigan Southern	61½	61	61	61½	61½
Illinois Central	...	...	97	97	96
Clev. & Pitts. barge	...	...	90	...	...
Chicago & North-Western	...	...	39¾	...	...
Do preferred	82¾	82¾	83½	...	83
Rock Island	96	96	96	...	95½
St. Paul, common	35½	35½	35½	...	104½
Do preferred	85	85	85	...	85
Wabash, com-mon	...	65½	65½	...	64
Fort Wayne	...	...	99	...	45
Ohio & Mississippi	...	...	27	...	27½
Union Pacific	76⅜	76	76⅜	76⅜	76
Harrisb'g & St. Joe	...	...	20	...	...
Do preferred	...	...	30	...	...
Atlantic & P., pref'd	...	...	35½	...	35
Iron Mountain	...	...	16	...	16
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Michigan Central	90	90	90	90	90
Michigan Southern	61½	61	61	61½	61½
Illinois Central	...	...	97	97	96
Clev. & Pitts. barge	...	...	90	...	...
Chicago & North-Western	...	...	39¾	...	...
Do preferred	82¾	82¾	83½	...	83
Rock Island	96	96	96	...	95½
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F., C. and St. L.

CITY MATTERS.

For eighty-five cents per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

New Agent at East Liberty.

Mr. John Stewart has taken the agency for the COMMERCIAL at East Liberty, and will serve its patrons promptly and diligently.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV. } Room 23, First National Bank; PITTSBURGH, PA., December 14 1875. }

MR. NEVIN'S CASE.

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum	WIND. Dir.	Force.	Weath.
7 A. M..	29.818	25	75	N.W.	Fresh.	Cloudy
2 P. M..	29.946	23	60	N.W.	Brisk.	Cloudy
9 P. M..	30.013	22	72	W.	Fresh.	Cloudy

Mean barometer. 29.947 Highest thermom....27
Mean thermom..... 23 Lowest thermom....22

Fire this Morning.

At two o'clock this morning an alarm was turned in from station 25, caused by a fire in the third story of the house of Mrs. Mary Vick, corner of Fourth avenue and Grant street. The damage consisted in the burning of a window frame and curtains, valued at about $50. The fire is supposed to have been started by a gas jet left burning too close to the window. The steamers of that district were on hand promptly, and put the fire out in a twinkling.

The Trouble Among the Coal Miners.

Danger having been apprehended among the coal miners now on a strike at Beck's Run, Sheriff Hare and a number of Deputies visited the place yesterday morning but everything being quiet they soon returned. The miners in all the pits in pools Nos. 1 and 2 are out, with the exception of those of William Robbins and William O'Neel. A large number of miners turned out in procession yesterday in the neighborhood, but acted in an entirely orderly manner.

A Skilled Workman.

It is very difficult sometimes to find a mechanic who is thoroughly skilled in the art of his calling; particularly is this the case when one desires great care and accuracy in every detail when buying a new piece of machinery, or thinks of getting repairs done to a piece of fine machinism. Particularly does this fact apply to watches and watchmakers, and we would state for the benefit of our readers, who may have need of the services of an experienced and reliable workman in this direction, to commard the services of Mr. Charles Sheib, who is now with Mr. George W. Haslett, No. 79 Smithfield street, and we will guarantee the work well done.

Capital and Labor.

The lecture of Henry Vincent at Library Hall last evening, upon "The Working Classes of the World, their Social and Political Rights and Duties," was most interesting and instructive. The attendance was fair, but it is to be regretted that while a considerable number of capitalists were present, there was an absence of the labor element. Mr. Vincent contended that labor should be exalted, and held that while the sons and daughters of thrifty mechanics were brought up to a dependence upon themselves, many of those of an upper class were left with nothing but idleness. Capital is saved labor, and is gained by thrift and economy. Every man is a capitalist to some extent, even if he owns but the clothes upon his back. Trade cannot be regulated by combinations of capital or by trades unions. In the opinion of the speaker only the law of supply and demand must control it. If two masters are seeking a man, wages must go up in the competition, and on the other hand, if two men are seeking one master, there must be a fall in wages, by the same rule. There must be just and honorable rivalry between capital and labor, and they must go hand in hand for the common good. If one mechanic, by thrift and economy and careful household management, accumulates money and becomes a capitalist, he is not to be cried down by his fellow laborer, who fails to improve his advantages. And when this self-made capitalist employs labor, he will naturally seek and get it at the lowest market price. John Stuart Mill had well said that strikes and lock-outs produced a state of war, and then there was loss and general disarrangement of business.

In England they had successfully tried arbitration boards to settle disputes, and in many cases misery and want had been prevented.

These means should be employed before hot blood had been brought up, when passion takes the place of reason. Mr. Vincent touched upon the great wars of recent years, by which thousands of lives and millions upon millions of treasure had been destroyed. These were the causes of the depression of trade everywhere. This is but temporary, however, and by individual as well as public economy, all will be retrieved. War must be prevented, standing armies blotted out and all useless expenditures and all extravagances stopped. Inflation must be stopped (applause) and a sound currency established.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

"Si Slocum" was witnessed last evening by an audience much larger than that of Monday night. The play is as full of the most thrilling situations as an egg is of meat, and Mr. Frank Frayne and his company make of them the most possible use of. Of course there is much expenditure of gunpowder, and, in the majority of cases, ball cartridges are used. Frayne himself is a dead shot, and his wife is not far behind him. Little Frankie Frayne is quite a phenomenon, acting wonderfully well for a child of his age. Those fond of dramas where bowie knives and rolling pictures of frontier life, should not miss the opportunity to see "Si Slocum." It will be repeated this evening.

Academy of Music.

The crowd at the Academy, last night, was larger than that of Monday, still there was room for improvement from the managerial point of view. "Jack and Gill" was most excellently played, and seemed to give great pleasure to all present, as there was much laughter and applause. The dexterity of the Jee brothers in making music from rocks is remarkable. T. J. Ryan's Irish songs and dances are all good, his make-up being specially appropriate and true. Prof. Heath's ventriloquial exhibition is one of the most interesting features of the performance. Prof. O'Reardon has a pretty voice, and handles his violin or the tumbleronicon. In fact, all of the specialties are of a superior order. The pantomime winds up with a very handsome scene.

"Jack and Gill" will be given at a matinee this afternoon, for the benefit of those ladies and children who cannot attend at night, when the price of admission will be twenty-five cents. It is a performance that they will enjoy immensely. The pantomime will be repeated this evening.

Fifth Avenue Comedy Theater.

Sam Sanford's Old Time Minstrels had their full proportion of those who attended places of amusement last night. Sam was in his glory, and sang and acted with all his ancient vigor and talent. He has made up a splendid programme, and his company perform everything on it in such a manner as to force applause from the coldest of audiences. All the favorite old songs, dances, break-downs, walk-arounds and plantation scenes are given with proper effect, and draw out shouts of laughter.

The minstrels will give a matinee this afternoon, and appear again this evening.

Trimble's Varieties Theater.

The usual Wednesday matinee will be given to-day, when all the talented company will appear. This evening look out for a rousing bill.

Library Hall—Von Bulow's Second Concert.

Dr. Von Bulow's second grand piano forte recital will be given at Library Hall. Those desiring seats can procure them at Hale's music store, 103 Smithfield street.

The Victor of Rhe.

As to scenery, furniture and costuming, Mr. Gotthold's new play, "The Victor of Rhe, or Risen from the Dead," will be presented to the public in a manner superior to anything of the kind ever attempted here. The author will essay the part of the hero, *Addard de Valancy*, this being his first appearance on the stage for more than a year. The stock company are rehearsing daily, and a capital performance is anticipated.

Centennial Minstrels.

The Centennial Minstrels, an amateur company comprising first-class young men in the Thirteenth ward, are announced for an entertainment at the school house, on Center avenue, to-morrow evening. Several gentlemen have had much experience in private theatricals, and an enjoyable time is looked for.

Concert in the Eleventh Ward.

The Columbia Musical Club, numbering about forty persons, gave a concert last evening, in the Eleventh ward schoolhouse, for the benefit of the Mission Sabbath School of that ward. Professor Haughwood acted as conductor, and filled the place well. The various selections on the programme were rendered in a manner highly creditable to the club, and were well received by the large audience present.

Haverly's Minstrels.

Haverly's Minstrels, now on its way to the Eastern cities from the South, will halt in this city for a week, and give entertainments at Library Hall. Many of the performers on the list of this company are recognized as among the very best in the profession, Mr. Milt. Barlow of the number. They are highly spoken of by the press of New Orleans and other cities.

We congratulate our friends, Messrs. Charles Donnelly and J. B. Washington, on their continuance respectively as Treasurer and Secretary of the Connellsville Railroad Company. Their reappointment was a just recognition of their fitness for the places which they occupy and an indorsement of the manner in which they have discharged their duties.

THE SUNDAY QUESTION.

The Allegheny Presbytery on Dr. Hopkins' Views—The Case of Mr. Nevin—Sharp Passages between Dr. Bittinger and Dr. Swift.

Allegheny Presbytery held a meeting yesterday, in Dr. Hodge's church, Grant avenue, Allegheny city. Dr. Hopkins' views on the Sabbath question, as advanced during the late session of the Evangelical Alliance in this city, and the case of R. P. Nevin, a member of the Sewickley church, charged with publishing a "secular paper on the Lord's day," were the main topics discussed.

MR. NEVIN'S CASE.

Mr Nevin's case was called, when Dr. Bittinger submitted the action of the Sewickley church on the subject, as the answer to the Presbytery. The session declined pressing the matter, for four reason's: 1. Mr. Nevin does not hold a controlling interest in the paper. 2. He is not acting editor of the Sunday edition. 3. There are multitudes of Presbyterians holding stock in railroads, publishing and other companies, who stand in similar relations to the church on the Sabbath question. 4. They decline proceeding further until the entire question of Sabbath observance and the requirements of the Fourth commandment are clearly defined by the General Assembly in regard to the cases referred to above.

After discussion between Dr. Williams, Mr. McConnell, Dr. Bittinger, Dr. Swift, Rev. Mr. Gill, Mr. Travelli, the paper, on motion of Dr. Williams, was committed to a committee to prepare a paper in the case for the consideration of the Presbytery.

DR. HOPKINS' VIEWS DENOUNCED.

Dr. Swift presented the following paper, which was adopted:

To the Venerable Presbytery of Cayuga:

BELOVED BRETHREN—The presbytery of Allegheny would respectfully submit to you that there is in the city of Pittsburgh a secular paper published on the Lord's day, the influence of which has been exceedingly injurious in various ways to the interest of morality and religion; especially in denying the divine authority of the Christian Sabbath. That one of the editors of said paper has been and now is a communcating member in one of the churches under the care of this presbytery; that this presbytery some months since commenced proceedings in the case with a view to the exclusion of the guilty person by that step from the communion of the church unless he repent; that while the case was pending Rev. Samuel M. Hopkins, D. D., a member of the presbytery of Cayuga, attended a meeting of the American Evangelical Alliance in the city of Pittsburgh; that before that body, on the—day of November, 1875, he read, by previous arrangement, a paper on the subject of the Sabbath, a copy of which we herewith submit to you, containing statements in direct antagonism to the Westminster Confession and the creeds of all Protestant churches; that said statements have exposue us, as Presbyterians, to the reproach of sister churches and the derision of all the enemies of the Sabbath, and have therefore been to us the occasion of great indignation, of grief and mortification.

While we have keenly felt the reproach of the enemy, on grounds common to all members of the Presbyterian Church in in this region, we feel that as a Presbytery we have special reason to complain to you, and we hereby do complain that these heretical teachings have been promulgated by him on what is, in a sense, our territory, and while the above case of discipline was pending. He has embarrassed our action, retarded the course of discipline and encouraged our enemies. For it will doubtless seem to all a strange proceeding, that a private member of the church should not arraigned for discipline for carrying out views taught by a professor in a theological seminary of the same body not two hundred miles distant. Therefore respectfully request your venerable body to bring the said Samuel M. Hopkins, D.D., to the bar of your presbytery, and issue the case as in your wisdom you judge to be for the glory of Christ and the peace of His church.

THE PAPER DISCUSSED.

A motion was made to have a copy of the paper sent to Cayuga Presbytery.

Dr. Bittinger suggested that it was meddling with other people's business.

Rev. W. P. Moore raised the point of order that Dr. Bittinger should have spoken before the paper was adopted. He had no reason to complain now. Besides, he thought the motion to send a copy to the Cayuga Presbytery was not necessary, as the passage of Dr. Swift's paper implied that.

Dr. Bittinger denied that such implication could be derived from the passage of Dr. Swift's paper. He complained against the paper because it contained assertions in regard to a member of this Presbytery, in good standing, which were not facts. The attempt is made in this paper to make it appear that there was collision between Dr. Hopkins and Mr. Nevin. The contents of the document were utterly objectionable, and the speaker would be sorry to see it go to Cayuga Presbytery in the shape it is. He would like that Presbytery would not be too careful in what it did. This was not a local question—it was going to come before other bodies than this. Consequently the Presbytery should not commit such a blunder as to hide itself behind falsehoods when there were plenty of persons to strip the veil off and show up the deception. This paper of Mr. Swift's attempts to show that there was collusion between a private member of the church here and Professor Hopkins. It draws the inference that while we were engaged in the question of disciplining a private member Dr. Hopkins came along, and willingly and with purpose connived at his misdeeds. He had no evidence of such a thing, and the speaker could not believe that there was any to be had. In fact, he did not believe that Dr. Hopkins ever thought of such a thing, and probably did not know of such a trial being in progress here. Dr. Hopkins was requested by a committee to present a paper, and he did so. The question here now was whether this paper presented by Mr. Swift contained facts or not. The speaker asserted boldly that it did not. If the paper was adopted the Presbytery he wished to have his vote recorded as dissenting. He did not wish to have his name appear in assent to a falsehood. A paper was a paper and not facts, and any action of this Presbytery could not reverse facts.

Dr. Swift said that he supposed the whole trouble was that Dr. Bittinger felt too much like Dr. Hopkins in his views. He would say that a good deal of Dr. Bittinger's remarks were mere buncombe. Dr. Hopkins came here within our territory and read his paper, and he should bear from this Presbytery.

Dr. Swift charged Dr. Bittinger with want of fidelity to his ordination vows, and with violating section 13 and 14 Division of Faith. He read the oath for Dr. B.'s edification.

Dr. Bittinger then asked Dr. Swift if he accepted the Confession of Faith from beginning to end.

Dr. Swift made no response.

Dr. Bittinger then remarked "there is not a minister in this Presbytery or this church that will approve it, and, in the language of Dr. Hodge, "the minister who says he can must either be an angel or a fool."

A SUBSTITUTE OFFERED.

The debate was growing too hot to suit the views of some of the more dispassionate members, when Dr. Allison arose in the capacity of a peacemaker, and remarked that while it was known that he held views opposed to those of Dr. Hopkins on the Sunday question he did not believe in bringing in other matters. With a view of harmonizing matters he would offer the following as a substitute for Dr. Swift's paper:

Resolved, That it is with deep regret that this Presbytery has noticed the address delivered by Rev. S. M. Hopkins, D.D., in the city of Pittsburgh, at the late meeting of the American branch of the Evangelical Alliance in which the divine authority and perpetuity of the Lord's day are denied; and that this Presbytery condemns the position of Dr. Hopkins as contrary to the standards of the Presbyterian church and its interpretations of the Word of God on the subject.

Resolved, That as this Presbytery has been subjected to great reproach on account of this deliverance, this Presbytery hereby transmits to the Presbytery of Cayuga a copy of the papers read by Dr. Hopkins.

The resolution of Dr. Allison was then adopted as a substitute for Dr. Swift's, but two voices being heard in the negative.

Afternoon Session.

Presbytery reassembled at 2 P. M., the Moderator, Rev. Mr. Stewart, in the chair.

After the consideration of some matters of little interest to the public, the report of the committee appointed to consider the report of the session of Sewickley church was taken up and read by Dr. Williams. The following is the report:

Resolved, That the Presbytery reiterate its former utterance, declaring the publication and the sale of a newspaper on the Lord's day to be inconsistant with membership in the Presbyterian church.

Resolved, That the persistent efforts of the Pittsburgh *Sunday Leader* to break down the faith of God's people in the divine obligation of the Christian Sabbath are most pernicious in their influence, and render as responsibility for such teaching a proper matter of discipline in any one who is a member of the church.

Resolved, That the session of the Sewickley church have given no satisfactory reason for their failure thus far in the exercise of discipline upon one of their members who is admitted to be connected with the *Sunday Leader*.

Resolved, That inasmuch as the General Assembly has given repeated injunctions on the Sabbath desecration, especially as they are found recorded on page 657 of the Morrie Digest, and on pages 81 and 81 of the minutes of the General Assembly for 1874, therefore the session of the church of Sewickley be required and directed to take up the case in question in accordance with the above deliverance of the General Assembly and the constitution of the Church, and that they report their action at the next meeting of Presbytery.

The report was considered seriatim. The second resolution was adopted by a vote of 36 to 8. The third resolution was amended by substituting the phrase "failure thus far" for the word "delinquency." The remaining resolutions were adopted without amendment, and the report as a whole was finally adopted.

Presbytery then adjourned till 7 P. M.

Evening Session.

Presbytery met pursuant to adjournment, Rev. Stewart sitting as Moderator. The business of this session had no reference to the Sunday question, and is reported elsewhere.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

United States District Court—Judge McCandless.

William Mahler, of Allegheny City, filed a petition for the adjudication in bankruptcy of himself. Referred to Register Shafer.

Adam Fhey, bankrupt, Allegheny City. Appointment of W. A. Lewis as assignee approved. An injunction was also granted against Garlich & Sizer.

Henry G. Sheavley, Venango county, and Abraham Simeon, Crawford county, both bankrupts. Orders for the discharge of the bankrupts made by the Court.

B. A. Snow, bankrupt, Warren county. Petition for discharge presented and referred to Register Woodruff.

McKnight, Duncan & Co, and McKnight, Porter & Co., bankrupts, Pittsburgh. Petitions of Joseph McKnight. Jr., Chambers McKibben, Wm. W. Acheson and Alexander B. McKibben for their discharge from bankrupcpy were presented and the usual order made for a hearing before Register Harper on the 3d prox.

A. H. & T. E. Tack, bankrupts, Pittsburgh. Assignee's report of the sale of certain real estate presented and confirmed nisi.

Clifton Wharton and Oliver F. Wharton, bankrupts, Pittsburgh. An order was made directing Paul Jones, the assignee, to sell certain real estate.

Connelly, Nagor & Co, debtors, Pittsburgh. Petitions for a meeting of the creditors to consider and pass upon a proposition for composition presented, and a meeting ordered to be held on the 6th prox. before Register Harper.

Josiah Pfeifer and Samuel Richards vs. J. C. Brown, Collector, and J. H. Culbertson, Deputy Collector. The preliminary injunction asked for in the bill in equity presented on the 1st inst., was refused.

John S. Adams vs. the steamboat Storm. On motion of John J. Mitchell, Esq., proctor, leave was granted Keeter & Evans to intervene in this case.

United States District Attorney, David Reed, Esq., brought suit against Messrs. Phillips & Mittenzwei, owners of the steamboat Hyena, for debt for penalty incurred by employing a person as engineer who was not licensed by the Board of Inspectors, in violation of section 3,433 of the revised statues. A summons was issued. The penalty is $100.

On authority from Washington the District Attorney discontinued proceedings against Charles O'Donnell, of Jefferson county, charged with the retailing liquor without payment of the special United States tax.

United States Circuit Court—Judge McKennan.

The case of William A. Hawthorne vs. Jennings and others, a bill in equity to establish a line of lands in Warren county, was taken up and the argument will occupy the attention of the Court for several days. Messrs. Weir & Gibson appear for the plaintiff, and R. & W. D. Brown, of Warren, Pa., and S. A. & W. S. Purviance, and Thomas M. Marshall, of Pittsburgh, for the defendants. The land involved in the controversy is very valuable.

Oyer and Terminer—Judge Sterrett.

TRIAL OF WILLIAM GREEN FOR THE MURDER OF SAMUEL MARSHALL.

William Green, colored, was arraigned for the murder of his step-brother, Samuel Marshall, near Mansfield, on the evening of Thursday, September 2. District Attorney Montooth and Colonel T. M. Bayne appeared for the Commonwealth, and Judge Graham and son for the defense.

The prisoner pleaded not guilty, and a jury was empanelled about noon, when the case was opened by the District Attorney, who stated that the Commonwealth would insist upon a verdict of murder in the first degree.

THE TESTIMONY.

Ann Marshall, sworn—In September last I lived about a mile and a half on the other side of Mansfield; came from Virginia; was a slave; Wm. Green and Henry Smith brought me here; the deceased had been here two years before I came; William, Henry, Samuel and George, my sons, lived with me; Samuel Marshall was living with me at the time of this occurrence; Henry was not living with me; the defendant was living at Mr. Nixon's place; I had a garden which the deceased cultivated; there was a difficulty between Samuel and myself; Samuel wouldn't let William have some potatoes; at the time of this occurrence, Henry, Samuel, myself and a smaller child were at home; I had a stove and William cleaned away part of it; when William moved away he said Samuel could keep it and pay him the difference, or he would take it and pay the difference; on the night of the shooting William came to the house while we were setting at the table and asked Samuel what he was going to do about the potatoes. Samuel said he was going to keep them; William said Samuel could have sue him, and, Samuel replied that he could crack his whip as much as he pleased. William had a gun on his shoulder, and left, when Samuel, who had risen up from the table got a poker and said that if he ever got hold of that man he would not get out of his hands alive. The witness tried to prevent the deceased from going out, but the went, and shortly after she heard the report of a gun, and going out saw the deceased lying on the ground.

Dr. Wm. C. Parker, sworn—Knew Mrs. Marshall and her son Samuel, was called at nine o'clock or later, the evening of the shooting; Marshall was dead when he got there; there was an incised cut on the right temple, to the bone; wound could have been produced by this gun [gun shown] if used violently; found also gunshot wound in the left side; the ball passed clear through to the skin on the opposite side, in front of the kidney; the largest vein in the lower part of the body was severed, and the spinal column was struck; the wound was necessarily fatal. [Ball produced.] The ball was badly battered, and witness could not tell whether it was original or not; it could now be forced into the gun; deceased was unhealthy, but his death was undoubtedly produced by this bullet; got the gun in the house; had no idea that there was no load in it; the broken end of the barrel was not with it; it was picked up by Wm. Steen, nine or ten feet from where Marshall lay after he was killed.

Wm. J. Steen was called and testified to going to Marshall's house, with Dr. Parker; narrated the finding of the part of the gun barrel.

Henry Smith, colored, sworn—Mrs. Marshall is my mother; came here from Virginia; Samuel Marshall sent for us, and Wm. Green came after us, they having come here first. Was eating supper the night of the murder. William went up to the door and asked Samuel what he was going to do about the potatoes; he said he would see him in the morning. William left, and Samuel said for a cent he would go out and "thrash" that nasty, stinking fellow. He went to the door and told William if he would came back he would "thrash" him. William came back and Samuel rushed in and got the poker and said, "If you come back you will go away alive." William came in, and I never heard Samuel say "Shoot if you want to." Then I heard the shot and saw the flash through the door. I was still at the table. As soon as I could get up I ran out and found Samuel dying on the road, and William was going up the hill. Samuel don't know how the gun was broken, heard no scuffling; did not hear Samuel say anything but "go for the doctor."

On cross-examination a paper was shown, which witness said was found in Samuel's hand after he was shot. It was not the flash, but the light of the flash he saw. Samuel said, before he got up from the table, that if William came back he would kill him.

Mrs. Bridget Pronter, residing nearly opposite Mrs. Marshall's, testified that on the evening of the murder she saw a green paper in her hands, and going in front of Marshall's house; heard them fussing about some potatoes; William seemed to start toward home; Samuel came out and William said he would sue him in the morning; Samuel warned William to keep away from his cellar, as he knew he had been there; he said if he didn't he would give him a "thrashing." William said, "G— d— you, that's what I've been waiting for." It was pretty dark, but the witness thought Samuel struck first, and said, "You can shoot if you want." Then saw the flash and heard the shot; heard a heavy blow right after that. The lady cried "murder," and said William had killed her dear son.

Squire Hill was next called, but his testimony was immaterial.

Addison Nesbit testified to having heard Green threaten to kill Marshall, if he got a chance, and to him. This threat grew out of the law suit. Witness saw Green the evening of the killing; heard the shooting, and immediately after saw Green running away.

Louis Castle and R. W. Morris, colored, who arrested Green, testified to the manner in which the arrest was made. Green first denied that he was the man, but finally admitted, and said he was willing to stand his trial.

The court adjourned until half past nine o'clock this morning.

Theodore Tilton.

On Saturday evening next Theodore Tilton will deliver, at Library Hall, his lecture entitled "The Problem of Life." Of his appearance in Boston, in October, the *Journal* of that city said: "The interest to see Mr. Theodore Tilton and to hear what he had to say about 'The Problem of Life' attracted, notwithstanding the drenching rain storm last evening, an audience which completely filled Music Hall in every part, and was only equalled this season when Wendell Phillips delivered his oration on O'Connell. The character of this audience was very marked, being of a high order of intelligence, and would have proved flattering to any lyceum "star." The applause which greeted him increasing in volume and ending in cheers, evidently pleased and encouraged him, and he said, in return for the cordiality of his reception and for their bearing the stormy weather, he gave them a thousand, aye, ten thousand, thanks."

THE application for a charter for the Duquesne Incline is to be made to the Governor, under the general corporation act, and not to the Legislature, as inadvertently stated yesterday.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF ALMS.

Proposed Plan of Chancellor Woods—Meeting To-day.

We publish below the paper of Chancellor Woods on a plan of operations in the the distribution of alms. In this connection we would remind our readers that the adjourned meeting for the purpose of organizing a relief society will be held in the rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association. Following is Dr. Woods'

PLAN OF OPERATIONS.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The committee appointed at a meeting held March, 1875, to consider and report on the different methods before said meeting for the improvement of the condition of the poor, would respectfully submit the following report:

We are profoundly convinced of the great difficulties involved in this subject. It has perplexed the most able thinkers and writers. It is one of the great questions of the age, and is becoming more important as the population increases and the struggle for a living becomes more severe. No perfect system has yet been devised. With the light furnished by our own and other cities, the object should be to avail ourselves of the best plan, and this plan must take into consideration the poor to be benefited, and the means in our possession to accomplish it.

It should be the aim of the plan adopted, so far as possible, not to mortify and degrade the sensitive poor, but to call forth and keep in exercise the sympathy of the generous giver and the gratitude of the receiver. It should endeavor so to investigate all cases that imposture shall be prevented and mendicancy diminished. Our charities should not be a means of educating and increasing the class of beggars. Special regard, too, should be had to the many very deserving ones who may have enjoyed plenty and reared children, and who, overtaken unavoidable by misfortunes, most unwillingly ask of charity what is absolutely necessary for the support of life. Charity should also be bestowed so as to help the poor, wherever this can be done, to self-support, wholly or in part.

PRESSING WANTS.

The immediate and pressing wants should be supplied. The sick should be furnished with necessary comforts. Children exposed to want and cruelty should be provided with houses, and elevated above the grade of medicants. Wives, suffering every indignity, beaten and turned out of homes they are furnishing by their hard toil, should be protected. Advice as to industry, economy, neatness, temperance, virtue and piety, should be given. All who neglect the House of God should be urged to attend some place of worship whenever proper prayer should be offered. Parents should be urged to send their children to day, Industrial and Sunday schools. A large part of the funds necessary for the supply of the present wants will, it is believed, be furnished by the churches to which the poor belong. Already in the districts where missionaries have been stationed, the churches are taking care of their own poor. In deciding on a plan for recommend for adoption we have before us the experience of some of the countries of Europe, of Lynn and Boston, Massachusetts, and of New York; and, still better, the very plan we would see, adapted already on a small scale, in most satisfactory operation in our own city.

FEATURES OF THE PLAN.

The following are the principal features of the plan we propose:

1. That there should be a general society to be called "Pittsburgh Organization for the Improvement of the Poor." Each church uniting in the plan shall be entitled to three members, its pastor and two ladies, and all persons contributing annually five dollars or more shall also be entitled to membership. For missionary shall be a member.

2. There should be a board of managers or executive committee, elected annually by the general society, with full power to conduct its affairs, employ missionaries, secure necessary funds, communicate with other similar organizations in our city or elsewhere, and to adopt all such measures as they may deem best for the accomplishment of the design of the society. This board should meet weekly during the winter months, at least, to hear the reports of the missionaries and secretary, and to adopt such measures as they may deem necessary. They should have a secretary, a gentleman or lady, to keep an account of all action taken by the board, to preserve all reports, and to carefully arrange all important fact and statistics. As soon as the funds of the society shall warrant, this secretary should receive such a salary as will enable him to devote all his time to the work.

3. Until a permanent secretary with a salary shall be employed and there shall be sufficient missionaries to embrace the entire city, there should be a central office, where one of the missionaries shall be found during the day, to which application may be made for relief, and whose duty it shall be to see that all cases referred to her are promptly investigated, and relief afforded if practicable.

DIVISION INTO DISTRICTS.

4. The city should be divided into districts, each of which a missionary can readily investigate all cases of want within its limits and perform all the duties it may require.

5. Missionaries with salaries should be employed, who shall carefully and faithfully acquaint themselves with the condition of their districts, the character of the poor, the churches, if any, to which they belong—to recommend them to their respective churches, and to furnish, at once, all in all cases of pressing need. It shall be their duty to counsel the poor in all matters for their truest good. They should be Christian women, with hearts to sympathize with the sorrowing, and judgment to discriminate between the worthy and unworthy, and who will seek to encourage and elevate the poor to a higher and better life, as well as to relieve their physical wants. They should keep accurate accounts of all their visits and condition of the poor, their nativity, religion and occupation and by whom relief is afforded, and report weekly to the committee appointed for the purpose.

6. The boundaries of each district, with the name and residence of the missionary, should be printed in a compact form; and blanks should also be printed, to be filled with the name and residence of the applicant for relief, and the name and residence of the missionary in his district; both to be distributed to all who may desire them.

RULES OF DISTRIBUTION.

We would recommend the following rules of the New York Association for improving the condition of the poor in distributing relief:

1. To regard each applicant for relief as entitled to charity until a careful examine by proves the contrary.

2. To grant relief only after a personal investigation of each case by visitation and inquiry.

3. To relieve no one except through the visitor of the section in which the applicant lives.

4. To give necessary articles, and only what is immediately necessary.

5. To give what is least susceptible of abuse.

6. To give only in small amounts, and in proportion to immediate need; and of coarser quality than might be procured by labor, except in cases of sickness.

7. To give assistance at the right moment; not to prolong it beyond the duration of the necessity which calls for it, and to extend, restrict and modify relief according to that necessity.

8. To require of each beneficiary abstinence from intoxicating liquors as a drink; of such as have young children, regular attendance at school be kept at school, except unavoidable circumstances render it necessary that they learn a suitable years to some trade, or send them to service. The design being to make the poor a party to their own improvement, to secure to the willful violation or disregard of these rules shall debar them from further relief.

9. To discontinue relief to all who manifest a purpose to depend on alms, rather than on their own exertions. In deciding on a plan for further maintenance would be incompatible with their good and the objects of the institution.

TIMELY SUGGESTIONS.

We have thus given a brief outline of the proposed plan for improving the condition of the poor. As will be seen, some parts of it are prospective, waiting for means. It is not believed to be an economical plan. Thorough investigation by persons devoting their whole time to the work will save no inconsiderable part of what would otherwise be given to the undeserving. In another city, some years ago, more than pay the missionaries employed. The whole amount required to pay twenty-five missionaries for four months (usually devoted to this work will be but $5,000. The churches will, when appealed to, willingly care for their own poor.

All churches appealed to have so far expressed their desire to take charge of their needy ones. This is as it should be, and is their duty.

It is unsectarian. All denominations are invited to co-operate in every way. The first object will be the relief of their immediate wants of the suffering, meritorious poor.

The ultimate object will be the improvement of their moral condition. Going, as our missionaries will, with both of these objects in view, they will have access not only to the homes, but to the hearts, of disappointed and suffering ones, and will exert a powerful influence in raising them to a higher plane of life, and to the proper aspirations and dignity of immortality.

The object in view is one of the greatest and best in which man can engage. To relieve suffering, to diminish vice and crime and to place the seal of God on every man, woman and child, as far as we can be done, is a great and noble work. Although our plan may be imperfect, and the results may be far below our desires, yet by earnest effort and study we may improve our system, and so from year to year accomplish greater good.

The season of destitution is on us already. One-half of one of the winter months has passed. A cry for relief is heard on every side. The work should be commenced vigorously at once.

$170 FOR REPORTERS

Secretary Vannote Brought to Book by the City Reporters—Indignation Meeting Last Night—An Evasive and Unsatisfactory Explanation.

The statement of Mr. Secretary Vannote at the meeting of the Tradesmen's Industrial Institute on Monday, that he had paid $170 to reporters of the press, naming the papers and the amounts paid to each, has created something of a stir among the gentlemen directly implicated. Last evening a meeting of city reporters was held at the office of the *Chronicle*, to consider the damaging charge. Mr. C. E. Locke, of the *Chronicle*, was called to the chair, and Mr. J. M. Caldwell, of the *Mail*, acted as Secretary. A committee of three was at once appointed to wait on Mr. Vannote and ask him for an explanation, and at that gentlemen's dictation the following statement was written out and the same reported to the meeting.

So far as my present knowledge goes, I clear all the present reporters of either listening to, or handling any money. I received any portion of the $170. Notwithstanding, the money was expended in a way that may be termed reportorial expenses. But of this went to all of the city papers, and a part to papers outside the city. It was also stated by Mr. Vannote that the money was paid for obtaining the full proceedings of meetings in the columns of the city journals, but he refused to give the names of those to whom it was paid. So far as he remembered but one person connected with the press in Pittsburgh received any portion of this and that person was possibly not now connected with the press. His name was refused.

The report was received and, after some little discussion, the following resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, Mr. Vannote, at a meeting of the T. I. S. held on the 13th of December, said that he paid reporters the sum of $170, distinctly naming certain papers, and the definite amount paid each; and, Whereas, by the closing of the 14th of December he stated to a committee of inquiry that no reporter on the city press received any part of the money so expended, but that nevertheless the money was paid to the city papers in a way that might properly be considered for "reportorial purposes;" therefore,

Resolved, That while we distinctly deny for ourselves and for all the reporters connected with each of the papers we represent, having received one cent of said money, we consider the explanation unsatisfactory and evasive, and we leave to Mr. Vannote the difficult task of reconciling the two statements.

H. H. Byram, *Dispatch*; C. E. Locke, *Chronicle*; Frank, Higgins, *Post*; W. B. Horner, *Gazette*; J. M. Breen, *Telegraph*; Wm. Anderson, COMMERCIAL; Geo. Wardman, *Leader*; Harry Ness, *Evening Herald*; J. M. Caldwell, *Mail*.

ALLEGHENY PRESBYTERY.

Meeting Yesterday—The Bakerstown and Pine Creek Troubles—Other Matters.

As stated elsewhere, the Allegheny Presbytery met yesterday morning, in the North Presbyterian church (Dr. Hodge's), corner of Lincoln and Grant avenues, Allegheny. Rev. Stewart, of Bakerstown, was chosen Moderator.

In addition to the consideration of the Sabbath question, the Presbytery transacted the following business:

Morning Session.

Presbytery met at 9 A. M., and was opened with prayer by the Moderator. The following members were present:

Ministers—Williams, Hodge, Swift, Bittinger, Brown, Shields, Wortman, Lanahitz, Scott, Jr., MacConnell, Laurence, Barchard, Potter, Milligan, Gill, Stewart, Lewis, Holliday and Johnston.

Elders—James Miller, C. P. Whirton, Robert McKnight, Conrad Huffman, Alex. Hughes, A. Wilson, J. Semple, S. Moorehead, Thomas Graham, S. Courtney, Henry Eckard, J. F. McDonald, Wm. Thompson, John Coe, George H. Christy, G. T. Lockrane, J. R. Carothers and Benjamin Hassinger.

Rev. John W. Little was received from the Presbytery of Redstone, and his name enrolled.

The church of Bridgewater presented a call for the pastoral services of Rev. W. W. Ralston. The church of Cross Roads also presented a call for the services of Rev. J. W. Little, which was placed in the hands of that gentleman, and he declared his willingness to accept.

BAKERSTOWN AND PINE CREEK.

A paper from the session of Bakerstown church was read, referring to a difficulty long existing between that church and the session of Second Pine Creek church. It alleges, among other things, that Rev. Johnston, pastor of Pine creek church, has permitted disciplined members of the first named church to take the communion in his church. A paper from Second Pine creek church was also presented, in which Rev. Johnston states that the disciplined members referred to take the communion on their own responsibility. Both papers were laid on the table for the present.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

Rev. John Rutherford, from the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, and Revs. R. R. Moore and W. F. Brown, of the Presbytery of Pittsburgh, were invited to sit as corresponding members.

Rev. J. M. Shields reported the following arrangements for the installation of Rev. J. W. Little over the church at Cross Roads, viz.: Installation to take place on Thursday, December 30, at 11 o'clock A. M., and Rev. W. W. Morton to preach the sermon. Rev. W. G. Stewart to preside and charge the pastor, and Rev. Levi Risher to deliver the charge to the people.

Mr. William F. Gibson presented a letter of dismissal from the Presbytery of Shenango, and on motion he was received under the care of this Presbytery as a licentiate. Mr. Henry W. Warnshuis presented a similar letter from the Presbytery of Dubuque, upon which like action was taken.

David H. Patterson was examined on experimental religion and reasons for seeking the office of the ministry, and on motion was received under the care of this Presbytery and recommended to the Board of Education as a candidate for the ministry.

Adjourned till two P. M.

Afternoon Session.

On motion of Dr. Hodge, Mr. C. D. Jeffries was examined on experimental religion and his reasons for seeking the Christian ministry. His examination was sustained and he was received under the care of the Presbytery as a candidate for the ministry.

The overture sent down to the Presbyteries from the General Assembly in regard to the reduction of the representation in the Assembly, was voted in the negative.

Dr. S. J. Wilson and Rev. J. M. Smith, of Pittsburgh, and Rev. O. A. Elliott, of Clarion Presbytery, were invited to sit as corresponding members.

The report of the committee on the report of the session of the Sewickley church was taken up, and occupied the time of the Presbytery for the remainder of the afternoon session.

Evening Session.

Presbytery reassembled at 7 P. M., Rev. Stewart in the chair.

Elder J. C. Bunting, of the session of Springdale church, asked for $100, aid from the Board of Home Missions, which was granted.

Rev. W. P. Moore read his report as Treasurer, which was received and referred to Messrs. McKrugh and Graham as an Auditing Committee.

On motion, the second Tuesday of April, in the First Church of Allegheny, at ten o'clock A. M., were fixed as the time and place of the next meeting of Presbytery.

BAK